

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER;

UNDER THE SANCTION OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26TH, 1840.

[PRICE THREEPENCE.]

THE REV. EGERTON RYERSON, OF UPPER CANADA, AND
SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER.

SIR,

I beg to hand you from *Zion's Watchman*, an American newspaper, the following abstract of proceedings on the subject of slavery, which took place in the conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, at Baltimore, United States, in May last, and of the correspondence which I have had with Mr. Ryerson thereon.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
JOHN SCOBLE.

Birmingham, 21st Aug., 1840.

ABSTRACT.

Baltimore, Thursday, May 21st, 1840.

METHODIST CONFERENCE.—BISHOP ROBERTS IN THE CHAIR.

DISCUSSION ON REPORT RELATIVE TO SLAVERY.

Three resolutions presented by the committee against making any alterations in the discipline on slavery, or taking any special action on the subject.

The Rev. Orange Scott, in the course of the discussion, quoted a variety of accredited documents of the Wesleyan body against slavery, and in the course of his speech referred to the well known sentiments of the late Richard Watson, and to those of the Wesleyan conference of 1830, 1835, 1836, and particularly dwelt on the memorable words of Dr. Bunting, who, in his reply to Dr. Fisk, said, that "slavery is *always wrong*, ESSENTIALLY, ETERNALLY, AND INCURABLY WRONG. *Die it must, and happy should I have been had they* (the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church) *passed sentence of death upon it.*"

Friday, May 20th, 1840.

BISHOP HEDDING IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. Scott had still possession of the floor. He was followed shortly by Mr. Roszell and Dr. Capers, and subsequently by Dr. Bangs in reply, who said at the close of his speech, "I unhesitatingly declare upon this floor, that I do not believe that slavery is a sin against God under all circumstances; neither did Wesley believe it, or Coke, or Asbury, or the early conferences. Allusion had been made to our Wesleyan brethren; but, previous to the abolition of slavery in the West Indies, they instructed their missionaries in those islands to have nothing to do with slavery." Dr. Bangs was followed by EGERTON RYERSON, one of the representatives from Canada, who said, "There has been allusion made to the doings of the British conference on slavery, which he doubted not Mr. Newton would satisfactorily explain if he were present: as however he was not, he should attempt it, particularly as he was in attendance at the British conference at the time referred to. It should be remembered, he remarked, that though that conference as a body had always entertained the sentiments of Mr. Wesley on the subject of slavery, yet they never deemed it their duty to take any conference action on the subject until 1830: for scores of years preceding they always instructed their missionaries to use the utmost caution in regard to intermeddling with it in the local governments where they were stationed; and during this whole time they abstained from any conference action upon it at home:—and why was this? Because they thought the time had not yet come for such action. Allusion had been made to what Dr. Bunting said at the time he responded to Dr. Fisk in the British conference, but part of the words used by Dr. Bunting on that occasion had been left out; what they were, however, the reporter says, he did not inform us, but attempted to make it appear, that Dr. B. and Dr. F. perfectly agreed on the subject, and that the sentiments of that conference perfectly harmonized with the views of those who oppose modern abolitionism in the Methodist Episcopal church! These were his own views, and the views of the church generally in Canada, and to these he was pledged as the editor of the *Christian Guardian*. Indeed he had utterly refused to resume the editorship of that paper several years since, unless he could be permitted by its patrons utterly to refrain from attacking or interfering with the institutions of the United States. (Immense and long continued clapping and stamping, a sort of cheering demonstration, by the way, which we have never seen in a general conference before.) He disclaimed all connexion with or sympathy for the Anti-slavery conventions, societies, and irregular proceedings in the United States on this subject. They had had action on the subject in several of their district meetings, and conflicting action, but they had determined to *expurgate* everything of the kind from

their journals, as he hoped the annual conferences of the United States would from theirs. He expressed no sentiment on the subject of slavery, and wished to express none, but such as is contained in the discipline of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Ryerson was followed by Dr. Capers, a slave-holder, who said, "He thanked the brother from Canada for the strong sympathy he had expressed for SOUTHERN INSTITUTIONS," and alluded to the position taken by our English brethren, and expressed the affectionate regard he entertained for them, &c., &c.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Newcastle, August 8th, 1840.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,

I think it due to you to inform you that it is my intention, on Monday evening next, to make some observations on a speech said to have been delivered by you at the late Baltimore conference, in support of the peculiar institutions of the southern states, and which was received with such rapturous applause by the slave-holders then present. I regret that I shall be compelled to take this course, especially as I had always understood that you were the enemy of slavery, and the friend of the oppressed.

I am, dear sir, your's respectfully,
JOHN SCOBLE.

P.S.—The adjourned Anti-slavery meeting will be held in Salem Chapel, Wood Street, in consequence of the lecture room in Nelson Street being pre-engaged.

Rev. E. Ryerson, &c. &c.

Monday, 6 o'clock, P.M.
Newcastle, August 10th, 1840.

MY DEAR SIR,

I beg to acknowledge yours of the 8th instant, and had hoped to have been able to attend the Anti-slavery meeting of which you have given me notice; but having just returned from the Methodist chapel, at which I have been occupied upwards of five hours in the delivery of an address on the objects of my mission to this country, I find myself so completely exhausted and indisposed, that I am utterly unable to go out this evening.

Of course you have an unrestricted right to comment in any way you may think advisable; but your stating that I had been reported to have delivered a speech at the Baltimore conference, "in support of the peculiar institutions of the southern states," &c., surprises me much. I have never delivered a speech containing such words, or conveying such an idea—nor seen the report of one; and God forbid I should say one word in palliation, much less in favour of the accursed system of slavery in any country. I did make some remarks in the Baltimore conference, one of which was cheered, and the whole of which were afterwards briefly, but most erroneously, reported in the *New York Christian Advocate and Journal*. The remark that was cheered had no reference to slavery, or to the southern states at all. It was an introductory general remark, in which I expressed my friendly feeling towards the Americans as a nation and a neighbouring government; and that so far from cherishing hostile feelings towards them, I had said in my own native country, previously to my appointment to the management of an official periodical, that I should not employ it as a medium of attack upon the republican institutions of our American neighbours. I then proceeded to correct some statements which had been made in reference to what Dr. Bunting had said to Dr. Fisk in 1836, at which time I happened to be in this country. The circumstances under which I spoke are as follows: A speaker had mistaken and erroneously represented the circumstances alluded to. The Rev. Mr. Newton, representative of the British conference, was not present at the moment. On his entering the chapel I mentioned to him what had been stated, and suggested that he had better correct it. Mr. Newton thought it would hardly be proper for him to do so, as he had not heard the remark. I then intimated that I would do so under his correction. Shortly after I arose, and after two or three introductory remarks, stated the circumstances alluded to in reference to Dr. Bunting and the British conference, and to my statements Mr. Newton nodded assent.

A few days afterwards I saw the report of what I had been supposed to say; but it was a misapprehension and erroneous representation of the drift and import of my remarks. I showed the paper to Mr. Newton. He expressed his surprise, and remarked, "What will they think in England on reading such a statement?" I immediately sat down, and wrote to the reporter a correction of my reported observations. As I left Baltimore within half-an-hour after I had delivered my letter to the reporter, informing him that he had, as I supposed from my

rapid utterance, mistaken the import and bearing of my principal allusions and remarks, I have never since seen a copy of the paper to learn the insertion of my letter.

I well recollect the concluding remark which, in the meagre summary report of what I said, was attributed to me, as it contained a sentiment to which I should be very sorry to subscribe. I was reported to have said, that christianity was the only legitimate means of abolishing slavery. The whole of the concluding sentence was, to the best of my recollection, *verbatim*, as follows: "Of the best or most proper means to be employed in different parts of this country to abolish slavery, I do not feel myself competent to express an opinion; but it is my full conviction that slavery must disappear before the progress of christianity, as darkness before the rising sun."

If I had the paper before me, I could point out other errors which I corrected in my letter to the reporter, and which he told me would be forwarded for publication; but I cannot now call them to mind.

Should you think proper to refer to the subject this evening, you are liberty to make such use of this note as you please, written in great haste and under great languor and fatigue.

Your's very truly,

EGERTON RYERSON.

John Scoble, Esq.

Not having seen a copy of the *New York Christian Advocate and Journal*, I am unable to say how far it may agree or disagree with the report of Mr Ryerson's speech in the *Zion's Watchman*, on which my letter was founded; but I would ask that gentleman whether he is correctly reported to have said,—1st, That the language attributed to Dr. Bunting by the Rev. Orange Scott, was so modified as to be susceptible of another and different meaning to that which Mr. Scott ascribed to it?—2nd, Whether he said that the views of the British and American conferences harmonised in condemning modern abolitionism?—3rd, Whether his own views and that of the Wesleyan Church in Canada, accorded with those of the Methodist Episcopal church in the United States on this subject?—4th, Whether, as editor of the *Christian Guardian*, he "utterly refused," as one of the institutions of the United States, to attack or interfere with the system of slavery which exists there?—and 5th, Whether at the Baltimore conference "he disclaimed all connexion or sympathy with the anti-slavery conventions, societies, and irregular proceedings in the United States on this subject?" For my own part, until Mr. Ryerson gives perfectly satisfactory answers to these questions, I for one cannot give him credit for being an abolitionist; and if it be true, as I have good grounds for believing, that the *Christian Guardian*, of which he is the editor, is entirely silent on the subject of slavery, then we have strong proof that, if he dare not defend the system of slavery, neither will he condemn it. He must permit me to say, that such conduct is utterly inconsistent with the idea of his being an abolitionist, and as such, entitled to a cordial reception from the friends of the oppressed slave in this country.

J. S.

ON FREE LABOUR.

(Concluded from our last.)

Without entering into any of the estimates of the cost of a home-bred slave, it may be enough to state that they all unite in proving that he is clear to his master at the age at which slaves are usually imported, his labour previous to this period having defrayed the expense of rearing him from infancy.

The average price of the imported slave being £50., it is obvious, therefore, that at this period he has cost just this sum more than the other; and if we give to each ten years of effective labour, a period much beyond the usual term of life where slaves are imported, we find that this alone, with interest, will add from £8. to £10. per annum to the cost of his labour as compared with the home-bred slave.

But, in addition to this, his labour is less productive, a fact universally admitted, and which can hardly require proof when we consider the advantage enjoyed by the latter of being born in the country, and seasoned to the climate. The produce of sugar per slave in our West India colonies, from 1791 to 1795, when the slave-trade was rife, as compared with that in the years previous to emancipation, goes to show that the difference in productiveness is fully one-fourth in favour of the latter. Now, if we take into account these two items alone, and add to them the waste of life in seasoning the imported slave, we are confident that we are much below the reality in coming to the conclusion that slave-culture, supported by the slave-trade, costs twice as much as that kept up by natural increase.

In support of the above conclusion, your committee will quote only a single fact.

The Brazilians are slave-importers—the Americans are slave-breeders. Cotton is extensively grown in both countries. The planters reside on their estates in both, which are generally free from mortgage; the trade of the world is free to both, and neither of them enjoy bounties or protections. There is, therefore, perfectly fair play for the trial of the two systems. The point at issue, therefore, is, which of the two has succeeded best, remembering that the only difference between them is slave importing and slave-breeding. Commencing with the peace of 1814, when the slave-trade was carried on with renewed vigour, the Brazilians supplied this country with 128,472 bags of cotton, whilst the

Americans little exceeded them in number of bags, being then only 165,046. But in the years 1827 to 1831, we find the American supply had increased to 556,307; being 337 per cent. whilst the Brazilian supply had only increased to 161,467 bags, or about 25 per cent.; and in the years 1837, 1838, and 1839, we find that the average supply of American cotton, had increased to 926,986 bags per annum, while that of Brazilian had decreased to 117,602 bags per annum. During the same period, the price of cotton has been reduced from an average of about nineteen pence per lb., to one of about sevenpence per lb., or to nearly one-third of its former price, a reduction manifestly occasioned by a cheaper mode of production in America, from the cheaper kind of labour employed, as the two countries are on a par in everything but this, that the Brazilians import their slaves, the Americans rear them.*

As a system of slave-cultivation, that of the United States is acknowledged to be the most economical in the world: but we cannot leave this subject without calling attention to the important fact, that, though the American cultivation of cotton by slavery has almost wholly superseded its growth in our colonies, and greatly checked its increase in the Brazils, yet the Carolinians themselves have been driven out of the cultivation of indigo in consequence of its still cheaper production by free-labour in the East Indies.

Fifty years ago, little or no indigo was exported from British India. The whole of that article then used in Europe was the product of slave-labour. A few individuals in Bengal employed their capital and their intelligence in inciting the natives to enlarge their cultivation of it, and in preparing it for the European market; and, though abundantly discouraged in the first instance, yet, the duties being nearly equalized, their efforts were at length crowned with complete success. Such, indeed, has been the effect of British skill and capital united, when employed in calling free-labour into action, that, notwithstanding the enormous freight (five times their present rate) which, for a time, the importers of it had to pay, the indigo of India has been gradually displacing from the market the indigo grown by slaves; until, at length, with the help of the free-trade, and the lighter freights consequent upon it, there is not now one ounce of indigo, the produce of slave-labour, imported into Europe; while the value of the indigo grown in British India amounts to nearly four millions sterling annually. The only existing competitors in this branch of trade are the free-labourers of Guatemala and the Caraccas; and their competition, which had for a time been nearly extinguished, is now reviving only with the new-born liberties of these regions.

As the limits of this report will only permit your committee to enter very briefly into some of the considerations connected with this important subject, they refer such persons as may be desirous of pursuing the investigation, to the following publications, to which in the preceding statement, they have been largely indebted:—

1. Hodgson's Letter to Jay on the Comparative Expense of Free and Slave-labour, Liverpool, 1823.
2. Letter on the Injurious effects of High Prices, and the Beneficial Effects of Low Prices in the Condition of Slavery. By James Cropper, 1823.
3. Relief of West India Distress. Ditto, 1824.
4. Support of Slavery Investigated, 1824.
5. An Important Appeal to the People of Illinois, on the Injurious Effects of Slave-Labour, Philadelphia, 1824.
6. A Short Review of the Slave-Trade and Slavery, with considerations on the benefit which would arise from Cultivating Tropical Productions by Free-Labour. By John Sturge. Birmingham, 1827.
7. Wages or the Whip. By Josiah Conder, 1833.
8. Review of the Report of a Select Committee of the House of Commons, on the State of the West India Colonies. By James Cropper, 1832.
9. Vindication of a Loan to the West India Planters. By James Cropper, 1833.

Your committee feel that they cannot pursue this subject further, without alluding to the writings of one long known to many in this assembly, who has but a very few months since been called from his self-denying labours to his eternal reward—the late James Cropper, of Liverpool. To those who estimated and loved him they need not dwell on the originality of thought, the strength of intellect, the singleness of heart and purpose, the unbounded benevolence, and above all, the christian humility which distinguished his character. To such as were strangers to him it would be unseemly to proclaim them, for he sought not human applause. His life was prolonged until the final completion of that great measure to which many of his best years had been

* The correctness of this conclusion is in no degree shaken by the well known fact, that a large number of slaves are annually exported from Maryland and Virginia into the southern states, because it is shown by the census, that the slave-population of the latter is not only kept up independent of this supply, but is increasing at a rate which it is wholly inadequate to account for. The increase in these states, exclusive of Maryland and Virginia, in the ten years, from 1820 to 1830, was 548,821, or upward of fifty per cent. on the whole slave-population. Now, on the highest possible estimate, not one-third of this number could have been imported during the above period; the remainder must have been the natural increase, and it is therefore undeniable, that the system of labour employed is, as we have stated above, that of slave-breeding.—See Book of the United States. By Grenville Mellen, New York, 1839.

devoted—the abolition of slavery throughout the British dominions; and regarding it, as he always did, but as a prelude to the universal emancipation of the negro race, we may be permitted to believe that, if the spirits of the glorified dead are ever suffered to revisit the scenes of their earthly labours, he is now rejoicing over this Convention, assembled from distant lands to accomplish the object which was dearest to him while on earth. At an early period of the anti-slavery movement, he directed the faculties of his powerful mind to the investigation of that branch of the subject which we are now considering and in a series of able pamphlets, demonstrated its important bearing on the emancipation of the slaves in our colonies, and the extinction of slavery. He showed, that, by the operation of that wonderful and beautiful law which we have endeavoured to explain, the rapidly decreasing fertility of the soil, under a system of slavery, had never failed to compel the planter to adopt a more economical mode of cultivation, which ended in approximating the condition of his slaves to that of freemen, except where, as in our colonies, a wasteful and expensive system was maintained by bounties and monopolies, or, as in the United States, large tracts of new and fertile land drew off the population by an internal slave-trade. He exposed, in all their intricacies, the multiplied delusions practised on us by the slave-holders in the colonies, the vast cost at which we maintained our colonial system, and its monstrous and destructive results; and he pointed out the infallible tendency of the competition of free-labour, to counteract the evils of slavery and ultimately to extinguish it. He persisted in pressing these views on the attention of the British public, in spite of opposition and obloquy—in spite of the attempts of many well-meaning philanthropists to set them aside, as a mere commercial view of the question, and in spite of the most unworthy imputations cast on his own motives and character. None acquainted with the history of the abolition struggle in this country can entertain a doubt of the immense influence they had in determining the final event, as they gradually found their way into most of the debates in the House, and most of the publications issued from the press.

Your committee wish to draw your attention to a few passages in his writings, in order to shew with what sagacity he foresaw the results of emancipation in our colonies, and to point out the exact, and, in relation to this question, most instructive coincidence of the event with his predictions.

In his *Support of Slavery Investigated*, published in 1824, he says:—

“If benevolent or virtuous feeling is strong enough, without any other motive, to effect the extinction of slavery in the British dominions, have we any good grounds for supposing the same motives will operate on other nations who hold a great part of these Africans in slavery? Have the French, the Spaniards, or Portuguese, followed us in the abolition of the slave-trade? From whence, then, are these poor beings to hope for the restoration of their rights? Can we do nothing for them? We can prove to the world at large that slavery is a bad and impolitic system, and that converting the slaves into free labourers, will be a change nearly as advantageous as the introduction of machinery in the spinning of cotton; and then we are as sure that the French will follow us in the one case, as they have done in the other.

In the *Vindication of a Loan to the Planters*, published in 1833, he says, in speaking of the proposed compensation, and urging, that it should be a loan instead of a gift, page 10:—

“If the contemplated change should prove to be as great a benefit to the West Indians as I believe it will be, nothing could be more absurd than to give them £15,000,000 to induce them to accept a still greater benefit.”

And again, in page 18:—

“When the slaves are emancipated, the estates with the sugar mills might be left to tenants, who could manage them with emancipated labourers, and pay a rent as English farmers do. The mere collection of rents for non-resident planters would be very simple, and would only cost a moderate commission upon the net income, instead of a high rate on the gross produce.”—Page 11.

“When emancipated, the slaves will no longer be the property of the master; but it may be shown, that, as landowners, their property will be more increased by an addition to the free population than if the same were held in slavery.”

In his review of the Report of the West India Committee, also published in 1833, after dwelling on the permanent advantages of emancipation, he says—

“Besides all these permanent advantages, there would probably be a large temporary profit from a reduction in the cultivation of sugar, the growth of which might, for a few years, be brought below the increased consumption of the country, the present growth being 30,000 to 40,000 tons per annum above it. If the growth should be reduced only 20,000 tons, or to about 180,000 tons per annum, an advance of 6s. per cwt. would be very probable, and would add to the profits of the planters £1,080,000 per annum. To give such a temporary advance of price, in order to introduce the cultivation by free labour in the west, and improve and extend it in the east, would very soon be repaid by more abundant supplies, and low prices.”

It is hardly necessary to point out that already in this the second year of freedom, all these predictions have been exactly fulfilled. France is at this moment preparing to follow us in the emancipation of her slaves. The planters have not only received twenty millions of compensation, but their estates are more valuable than before, and their prosperity greater than at any period. Their estates are, in many cases, already let to tenants; and finally,

the production of sugar had actually fallen in 1839 below the home consumption, and occasioned an increase of price, even greater than Mr. C. anticipated, and holding out a stimulus to production by free-labour, of which we are convinced the fruits will soon be apparent.

While the results of emancipation had thus been clearly foreseen by the abolitionists of this country, only differing from their prediction, in having far transcended their most sanguine hopes, let it not be said that because the produce of sugar has diminished, and because labour is scarce in some of our colonies, this circumstance forms an exception to the general rule. We foresaw and predicted its occurrence, and although, from causes which none could foresee, the temporary rise in the price of sugar has been so great as to become a grievous tax on the people of this country, yet confident as we are that the advance is only temporary, and that its very excess will cause a more speedy re-action, we cannot lament it as an evil. The advanced price of sugar will stimulate its production by free-labour all over the world. It will operate as a bounty for raising it by an improved system of manufacture, which, once thoroughly brought into action, will go on with accelerated speed, and will in every successive year, exercise an increasing influence in promoting the downfall of slavery. The present is a moment of critical importance in the competition of free with slave-labour; and it is of the utmost consequence that we seize it, and make the most of it. While your committee therefore, would urge you cordially to co-operate with every plan for raising tropical productions by free labour all over the world; and while they look especially to our Indian empire, as to a boundless and, with one exception, almost untried field for these operations, they feel it their especial duty, at this juncture, to direct the attention of abolitionists to our colonies in the west. There we have a free black population rapidly advancing in intelligence, who know their rights, and will soon be able to protect themselves in the enjoyment of them—a population, too, it should never be forgotten, who have been our slaves, and whose welfare we are therefore bound, by every recollection of former wrong, as well as by every sentiment of justice, to promote.

In some of our older colonies, where the fertility of the soil has been exhausted, it has long been foreseen, that, after emancipation, the cultivation of sugar must be relinquished on many of the estates. We have some documents before us which show that this article is at the present time in Jamaica produced on some estates at twice the cost at which it is produced on others; a state of things which cannot continue long under a free-system. The less productive lands will soon be applied to raising other kinds of produce, and although it is probable the value of estates in general will not be diminished, it is pretty certain that the produce of sugar, so far as these islands are concerned, will fall off yet more. The impotent attempts to keep down the rate of wages below their natural level in some of them, may be regarded as an expiring struggle to maintain the cultivation of sugar where it ought to be relinquished.

But we have no fear that the produce of this article in our colonies will be permanently diminished. In Trinidad and British Guiana there is a vast extent of unoccupied land of almost boundless fertility, sufficient to grow sugar for the whole world. In these colonies the cultivation is at present immensely profitable, and labour is in such great demand that there is reason to believe the planters would grant us any concession or securities we can ask, if we will only aid them in obtaining it.

While, therefore, we deprecate the introduction of ignorant and helpless beings from another hemisphere into these colonies, we think that, if a sufficient guarantee can be obtained for securing entire freedom and equal rights to free black immigrants from our West India colonies, immense advantages would ensue. We are aware of the difficulties of obtaining such a guarantee, but we cannot believe them insuperable. Let immigration once set in, and it will, in all probability, soon flow onward, as we can see no limit to the demand for labour; and as the population of our other colonies, hitherto kept down by oppression, will doubtless increase with almost unexampled rapidity, under the blessings of freedom, there can be no fear of a want of new settlers, whether it be labourers or free black proprietors. Thanks to the labours of our missionaries, these would reach the shores of British Guiana, intelligent, civilized, and christianized. Under an improved system of cultivation, the unfailing accompaniment of freedom, where animal labour and the plough are employed more and the sinews of man less, their labour would soon become productive beyond example.* Under these circumstances, it cannot admit of a doubt, that sugar would soon be raised in unlimited quantity, and at a price which, after a fair profit to the planter, would still be low enough to undersell in all the markets of Europe, the bloodstained produce of Cuba and the Brazils. If there be any truth in the principles we have endeavoured to explain, the transport of human beings to these charnel houses of death would

* It will hardly be believed, that, that simplest of agricultural implements, the plough, has been hitherto almost unknown in our sugar colonies. Several planters have recently introduced it on their estates; and the result has been as might have been anticipated, an immense saving of human labour. In the French islands, two hands are reported to do, with its aid, the work formerly done by ten in our own islands, it is stated in one instance to enable two men, in another a single man to do the work of ten, and Mr. Anderson mentions an estate in Jamaica, under the management of a Mr. Stewart, which had formerly about one-hundred slaves, furnishing an effective working gang of 30. The whole cultivation of which, was now carried on with the plough, by three men and a boy!

then cease, as it would no longer repay the risks of the passage. The slave-trade would thus be at an end, and, as the competition of free-labour held on its course, these nations would ultimately relinquish slavery itself.

It is impossible to contemplate such glorious results without an intense feeling of desire for their accomplishment. While then we would not relax a single effort for terminating, by moral and religious means, the curse of slavery; while we would unite with every friend of the African race in calling on the nations of the earth, by the solemn duty they owe to their God to let the oppressed go free; we would at the same time entreat each and all of them to co-operate with us in giving effect to the principles we have developed, which we firmly believe to have been destined by the Divine Being to banish slavery from the world, if every other effort should unhappily fail.

CULTIVATION OF COTTON IN INDIA.

MEETING OF THE MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

A special general meeting of the Manchester chamber of commerce was convened by advertisement, on Thursday to receive the report of the directors on the measures taken by the East India Company for promoting the growth of cotton in India, and to confer on the prospect which is held out of increasing the supply of this important raw material.

The chair was occupied by J. B. Smith, Esq., president of the chamber, and there were present a number of the most wealthy and influential manufacturers of Manchester and its neighbourhood.

It may also be mentioned that there were on the table three specimens of India cotton, which had undergone one of the first operations of manufacture. They were all the produce of the same piece of land, and were numbered one, two, and three, to denote the different machines through which they had passed. Numbers one and two had undergone the ordinary operation of ginning to which American cotton is usually first subjected, and appeared to be in a somewhat rough state. Number three had been operated upon by a new machine, invented by Messrs. Fawcett and Co., of Liverpool, and was stated to be worth, in consequence of the superior work of the new machine, from a farthing to three-eighths of a penny more than numbers one and two.

The chairman, after reading the advertisement convening the meeting, observed that India was capable of furnishing any quantity of cotton for the supply of the English market; and after the directors of the East India Company had sent down to Liverpool, and shown them what had been done, he thought there was no necessity for the board making any apology for calling them together. There was nothing in the course which the chamber had pursued that could afford the least ground of jealousy on the part of their brethren of the United States. The chamber, he had no doubt, were all wishful that we should deal with our own colonies in their produce, rather than with other and independent countries. They had no wish to put down the growth of cotton in any country. On the contrary, it was their wish that it should be cultivated wherever it was possible. At the same time, they saw no reason why the people of this country should be taxed to pay for the government of our colonies, and at the same time be made to pay double the value of articles to other countries which were produced in our own colonies. At the present period we were made to pay double the price which we ought to pay for timber, which we could produce, from other countries. We were made to pay more than double the price which we ought to pay for our sugar and coffee, so that we were taxed in an indirect manner to an amount of seven or eight millions per annum in these two articles alone. If the cotton of India should unfortunately be put upon the same footing with our other colonial produce, then the promotion of the growth of cotton in India, instead of being a blessing, would be a curse to the country. He hoped, however, that a more enlightened period was dawning upon the country, and that there would be nothing to obstruct their enterprise. He would not detain them longer, but would call upon the vice-president, in the absence of the secretary, Mr. Boothman, who was ill, to read the report.

Holland Hoole, Esq., the vice-president of the chamber, then read the following report:—

“REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS TO A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND MANUFACTURES AT MANCHESTER, ON THE GROWTH OF COTTON IN INDIA.

“The question of obtaining cotton from various countries must necessarily be interesting to a manufacturing community whose prosperity greatly depends upon a plentiful and steady supply of the raw material, since it must be obvious that security against the contingencies of failing crops, political disagreements, or unsteadiness of price arising from speculative combinations, must be in proportion to the number of channels from whence we derive our supplies. The board, therefore, have great satisfaction in calling together the members of the chamber to report upon the progress which has been made towards obtaining an increased supply and improved quality of East Indian cotton, a subject which has engaged much of their attention, and has for several years past had a prominent place in their annual reports to the Chamber. The importance of improving the cultivation of Indian cotton has long been impressed upon the chambers of commerce of Bombay and Bengal, and many valuable communications have been received by the board from these bodies during a correspondence of several years, in which suggestions have been mutually made as to the best means of accomplishing the object in view. The nature of some of the difficulties in India to the successful cleaning of cotton will be best seen by the following extracts from a communication from the chamber of commerce at Bombay in 1837:—

“‘Some impediments exist arising from the climate, to which it seems necessary to draw your attention. The south-west monsoon commences generally on this side India early in June, when all communication ceases with the coast, and, from the state of the roads and rivers, with the interior generally. The cotton begins to be gathered about the end of February, but it is not generally ready for picking until the middle of

March; thus eleven or twelve weeks is all the period the natives have annually to gather, clean, prepare, and ship the cotton for the Bombay market, and to store from the weather what they cannot ship before the rainy season commences

“‘Labourers are thus in great request at that time, all these operations being done by manual labour; and each churka requires two men or women to turn it, and another to feed or supply it with cotton.

“‘At the commencement of the season, more time and care are given in cleaning; but afterwards all is hurry and bustle, and less attention is bestowed, the advanced state of the season and the near approach of the monsoon then allowing so little time for careful cleaning.

“‘When time is taken and care bestowed, the churka seems to clean the cotton from seed very well; but the process is tedious, the average turn-out of clear cotton from each being about 38 to 40 lbs. per day.’

“This slow and expensive process of cleaning, it is obvious, would present insuperable obstacles to a greatly-extended production of cotton; and, with the view of directing the attention of mechanical skill to some more efficient and cheaper mode of preparing it for market, the chamber of commerce at Bombay, in 1837, forwarded to this chamber and also to the chamber of commerce at Glasgow, a churka, the machine used in India for cleaning cotton, and also several bales of cotton as gathered from the field, with the seed attached to it, for the purpose of making experiments in cleaning by any new machine which might be invented. This board invited the attention of ingenious mechanics to the subject by public advertisement, announcing that the churka would be exhibited to any person desirous of seeing it. The result was several attempts to improve it, but the desirable object of cleaning large quantities with facility and economy has not been attained.

“In December, 1838, a deputation from this board presented a memorial to the court of directors of the Honourable East India Company, suggesting a modification of the land tax of India, the abrogation of the system of levying the tax in kind, the improvement of the roads, the construction of piers, quays, and storing warehouses at the ports; and praying that every obstacle might be removed and encouragement given to capitalists to embark in the cultivation of cotton in India.

“Copies of the above memorial were presented by the deputation to Sir James Carnac, the recently appointed Governor of Bombay, on the 12th of January, 1839, and to Sir John Cam Hobhouse, President of the Board of Control, on the 19th of the same month.

“The deputation, in their interviews with Sir James Carnac and with the India board, found that an opinion extensively prevailed that such physical difficulties existed in the soil of India as would prevent any great improvement in the quality of cotton grown in that country. These opinions were, we have reason to hope, successfully combated by the deputation, and a promise was promptly given to take the whole subject into serious consideration.

“This promise was not suffered to remain a dead letter. On the 15th March, 1839, a ‘despatch from the court of directors of the honourable East India Company to the governor-general of India in council,’ (a copy of which was printed in the appendix to the annual report of this chamber for the past year) was forwarded, transmitting ‘copies of the memorials received from the chambers of commerce of Glasgow and Manchester, and from the East India Association of Liverpool and Glasgow, on the subject of cultivating cotton in India,’ and referring to the measures which had been pursued from time to time with little success: the honourable court expressed the great interest it continued to feel in the extension of the cultivation of that article, and the steps which had been taken ‘to engage parties in the United States willing to proceed to India, and duly qualified for the purpose of instructing and superintending the natives in the cultivation of cotton, and the proper mode of cleaning it by means of machinery.’ The honourable court also authorised his Excellency ‘to offer rewards of such an amount as he might consider sufficient to stimulate parties engaged in the production to exhibit cotton of good growth, and cleaned by machinery.’ ‘The minute by the governor-general of India, dated Simla, August 14th, 1839,’ in reply to this despatch (a copy of which was printed in the appendix to the annual report of the chamber for the past year) is an able and enlightened document. His Excellency says, ‘All the value of success in introducing in India a better produce of cotton suited for the immense manufactures of England is fully appreciated by me.’ He then enters into a minute examination of the memorials laid before him—the difficulties to encounter in carrying into effect the wishes of the honourable court, and the best course to be adopted to facilitate the experiment of the parties to be brought over from the United States. It is satisfactory to observe the wise discrimination exercised by his Excellency between the ‘artificial fosterings of the devotion of capital to particular employments by systems of bounties,’ and the wholesome encouragement to laudable enterprise by the removal of all obstacles to the free employment of capital and labour. The sentiment expressed by the governor-general on this point, and the steps taken to remove existing impediments to freedom of industry, warrant the hope that the enlightened views entertained by his Excellency will be fully carried out. Already the transit duties on internal intercourse have been abolished throughout the presidencies of Bengal and Bombay—a boon (says the ‘Minute’) ‘I trust to be soon conferred on the territories of Madras. From this measure we may look for the best effects, in the quickening of every enterprise which may seem to rest upon really solid foundations.’ It is further observed, with reference to the memorial of this chamber, suggesting a modification of the land-tax that ‘it is now the general rule and practice throughout India that the assessment on land cultivated with superior products shall not be higher than the average rate of land of similar quality whatever the crop reared on it.’ His Excellency appears to have misapprehended the meaning of the chamber, which was, that the amount of the land-tax generally was excessive, and calculated to discourage the production, not only of cotton, but of every other commodity. With respect to the abolition of the system of levying taxes in kind, the ‘Minute’ states that ‘the custom of taking revenue in kind, is no where retained.’ The other subject, referred to in the memorial, viz., the improvement of the roads, the construction of piers, quays, and storing warehouses at the ports of shipment are severally noticed in the ‘Minute,’ and their importance appreciated. ‘The building of warehouses,’ his Excellency observes, ‘seems rather the province of the private merchant than of the government. It may, however, be very proper to inquire from the government of Bombay whether there are local reasons which in Guzerat would render

the interference of the State useful and expedient for such a purpose, as well as whether there is a want of suitable quays at any of the ports.

"The board have the further satisfaction to report, that, by accounts received from India last week, the governor-general has offered three prizes for the growth of a certain quantity and quality of cotton. The first prize of 20,000 rupees, or £2000; the second of 10,000 rupees, or £1000; and the third of 5000 rupees, or £500. The earnestness of the court of the honorable the East India Company was further evinced by the sending out Captain Bayles to the United States, for the purpose of engaging persons competent to establish and superintend an improved system of cotton culture in India, a course which, in the opinion of this board, was the most judicious which could be adopted for carrying into effect the objects contemplated. Captain Bayles succeeded in his mission, and recently returned from the United States with the gentlemen whom he had engaged to proceed to India, provided with a considerable quantity of seeds, and with several American saw gins for cleansing cotton. With a view to ascertain the precise requisites in the cotton most wanted in this district, Captain Bayles, accompanied by several of these gentlemen, came to Manchester to seek personally such information as to the faults now existing in the Indian cotton brought to this country, and the improvements most desirable to effect in it, as might assist them in their future pursuits. Their first application was to this chamber, and such assistance was cheerfully afforded as fully carried out the object they had in view. They visited various mills, and had pointed out to them the deficiencies of Indian cotton, particularly in reference to its cleanness and the irregularity of its staple, both of which they expressed confidence in being able to improve.

"In the mean time the saw gins brought by Captain Bayles from the United States were set up in Liverpool, and a communication dated 9th July last, was received from the secretary to the honorable the East India Company, inviting the directors of this board to meet the chairman and deputy chairman, with some members of the court of directors of the East India Company, at Liverpool, on the 17th of July, to witness the experiments to be made in the machinery for cleaning cotton. The board nominated a deputation to proceed to Liverpool on the appointed day, and the results of the experiments will be best shown by the following report of the deputation to this board:—

REPORT.

"The directors appointed at the last meeting of this board, as a deputation to Liverpool, in compliance with the invitation given by the chairman and deputy-chairman of the East India Company, to meet them there to witness the experiment intended to be made of cleaning Indian cotton with the saw gin, proceeded thither accordingly on the 17th ult., and were present at the experiment made there on that day. The same directors have also this week witnessed a repetition of those experiments by the same machine in Manchester.

"They consider the results of those experiments to be, on the whole, highly satisfactory, as proving beyond a doubt the practicability of cleaning Indian cotton with the American saw gin; although it is evident, at the same time, that personal skill and experience will be requisite to adapt the machine to the particular species of cotton it is intended to operate upon.

"It likewise seems worthy of remark, that some difficulties may have to be encountered in India, in providing the requisite moving power for driving machinery of this description.

"It appears, therefore, to be a very judicious arrangement which the honorable East India Company have adopted, viz. to send over to India with the machines several talented and experienced gentlemen, natives of the United States of America, and brought up as cotton planters, who will be able to give a new impulse to the growth of cotton in India, and to devise and carry into effect the best methods of driving the saw gin, and applying that machine to the very important purpose of cleaning the cotton so produced.

"The deputation wish to record their grateful sense of the zeal and energy displayed by the honorable East India Company in the promotion of this great national object, and of the able manner in which their views have been carried out by Captain Bayles.

"HOLLAND HOOLE, Vice-president.

"HENRY ASHWORTH.

"DAVID PRICE.

"CHARLES POOLEY.

"Chamber of Commerce, Manchester, Aug. 5th, 1840.

"The saw gins commonly used in the United States are capable of producing from 1100lbs. to 1200lbs. weight of clean cotton per day, whilst the churka, with the labour of three persons, produces only from 38lbs. to 40lbs. per day. The board entertain sanguine hopes that, if encouraged the mechanics of this district will be able to effect improvements in the saw gins exhibited at Manchester; and this expectation is strengthened by the fact, that the samples cleaned here by machines, being submitted to three competent judges, it was decided that the quality of one of the samples was superior to the others by $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb., although the seed cotton submitted to be cleaned by each machine was precisely the same. The machine which produced the best sample was built at the works of Messrs. Fawcett and Co., of Liverpool, under the superintendence of Dr. Jones, the patentee.

"The board, in conclusion, have only to add, that if the efforts of the East India Company, so judiciously commenced, be perseveringly followed up (as they feel assured they will be) in a manner commensurate with their importance to the interests of England and of India, they cannot doubt of ultimate success.

"By order, and on behalf of the board of directors,

"J. B. SMITH, President.

"Chamber of Commerce, Manchester, August 13th."

EDWARD ASHWORTH, Esq., manufacturer, of Bolton, moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by THOMAS BAZZLEY, jun., Esq., boroughreeve of Salford, and carried unanimously.

HOLLAND HOOLE, Esq., moved the following resolution:—

"That this chamber must ever regard it as most desirable, that a constantly increasing quantity of the raw material upon which the capital, skill, and labour of the surrounding population are employed, should be derived from as numerous and diversified sources as possible, so that the danger of any interruption to its regular supply, whether from the vicissitudes of seasons, war, or the speculative operations of individuals, should be as far as possible prevented; and that these views are especially appli-

cable to the lower qualities of cotton, upon which the greatest proportion of our machinery is employed."

ROBERT GARDNER, Esq., seconded the motion.

The resolution was unanimously carried.

JOHN SHUTTLEWORTH, Esq., then moved the following resolution:—

"That, from the experiments already made, this chamber feels convinced that cotton may be produced upon the soil of British India of a quality suited to the wants of a majority of the spinners and manufacturers of this country; and while it views with the most cordial satisfaction the steps already taken by the East India Company to effect this object, especially in sending out to India persons from the United States experienced in the cultivation of cotton, this chamber begs to express its earnest and respectful request that the directors of your honourable company will follow up their enlightened undertaking with a zeal proportioned to its importance to the best interests of the people of Great Britain and India; and that any obstruction or impediment that may exist to the rapidly augmenting production of cotton in our own eastern possessions may be entirely removed."

JOHN BROOKS, Esq., the boroughreeve of Manchester, seconded the resolution.

The resolution was then put and carried.

THE JAMAICA MARRIAGE ACT.

LETTERS from Jamaica complain loudly of the Marriage Act, which has been recently passed by the now busy legislature of that island. So far as we can ascertain, the evils alleged to exist in the new law are two:—the first, that dissenting ministers are not permitted to marry by licence; the second, that marriages performed by them are clogged with heavy and peculiar expenses. It will be in the recollection of many of our readers, that the important subject of marriage in the late slave colonies was earnestly taken up by Lord Glenelg, when colonial secretary, and that an order in council respecting it was issued under date of September 7th, 1838. This order had been very carefully drawn, and, while it became law at once in the crown colonies, was intended as a model for those which had legislatures of their own. It furnishes therefore the fair standard by which the act of the Jamaica legislature should be judged. Now, this order contains a clause expressly providing that all ministers who were authorized to marry by banns, should be authorized to marry by licence also. The following are the terms of the order:—

"And it is hereby further ordered, that where by any law in force, or which may hereafter be in force, in any of the colonies to which this order applies, by which licences for marriage without the publication of banns may be granted or issued in any such colony by the governor thereof, or any other civil authority therein, it shall be lawful for the parties intending marriage or either of them, to require that such licence shall authorise the solemnization of the marriage, in respect of which such licence is applied for, in any place where, and by any minister by whom such marriage could have been solemnized by virtue of this act if banns thereof had been published as aforesaid."

It is evident therefore that, in withholding such authority from dissenting ministers, the Jamaica legislature has departed from the course recommended to them by the home government. We can see no reason for such a deviation but a desire to prevent dissenting ministers from marrying the more elevated portion of the community, and to drive into the arms of the church and the clergy all who have a respectable standing in society, or who may be likely to present a handsome remuneration. This is undoubtedly an undisguised attempt to degrade the dissenting ministers, as compared with those of the establishment; and we should hope that the present secretary for the colonies would insist upon the alteration of so invidious an enactment.

The second ground of complaint is, that marriages by dissenting ministers are rendered injuriously expensive, as compared with those performed by the clergy: in the first place, heavy charges being annexed to all marriages by dissenters; and secondly, provision being made to enable ministers of the establishment to marry gratuitously. The charges annexed to a marriage by a dissenting minister arise in the following manner. The minister is to register the marriage in specified particulars in a book of his own; he is then to cause this document to be executed in duplicate by the same parties on a stamped paper; and this duplicate register is to be forwarded for safe keeping and official record to the secretary of the colony. Hence there is the charge of 1s. 8d. for the stamp; of 2s. 6d. for the recording fee; and double postage, which in many cases will be very heavy. Here is therefore an expense on the average of five shillings sterling, imposed by law on every marriage by a dissenting minister. Making marriage expensive would be a serious evil of itself, adapted, as it evidently would be, to repress those habits of virtuous association which every well-wisher to the emancipated population must desire to encourage. But it is doubly injurious in this case, because it is partial. Provision is made for the state-church minister to marry for nothing. This is not effected by any clause in the marriage act; but by another, which we believe is called the clergy act, by one enactment of which an allowance (if we are rightly informed, £200. sterling per annum) is granted out of the public funds—that is, out of the taxes—to every officiating clergyman, in order that he may perform without cost to the parties those professional services, for one of which every dissenting minister is obliged to make his friends pay so heavily. No one can mistake the *animus* here displayed. It is the church now wooing by bribes a long neglected and despised population, and endeavouring to degrade and thrust back from the station which their disinterested zeal has so justly earned for them, the men to whom Jamaica is indebted for almost all the

religion, morality, and social order she possesses. This system of invidious distinction and substantial persecution must be viewed with disapprobation and regret by all enlightened friends of the establishment, and cannot fail to irritate the entire body of dissenters—and they are the great body of the people—in the island. This injury is the more galling, because the oppressive prerogatives of the clergy are all to be sustained by general taxation; and the very people who will have to pay five shillings to get themselves married by a dissenting minister, will have to pay out of their poverty towards the legislative allowance by which the clergy of the state church are enabled to marry others for nothing. They will have to pay, first, the cost of their own marriage, and then, in part, the cost of their neighbour's. This also is far from being in the spirit of the order in council, and we should hope it will not be allowed. A proper record of marriages there must be, and there will be expenses attending it; but surely it is both just and easy to provide that those expenses shall fall equally on the parties interested, and not with an oppressive partiality. We may add on the general question of expense, that we do not see why the duplicate register should be on a stamp, or why they should not be sent to the secretary of the colony postage free.

Foreign and Colonial Intelligence.

UNITED STATES.

THE AMERICANS AND THE SLAVE-TRADE.

(From the *United States Gazette*.)

American vessels engaged in the slave-trade on the west coast of Africa during the spring and summer of 1839, whose names have been communicated to the Secretary of the Navy by Thomas Buchanan, Governor of Liberia, and Agent of the United States for re-captured Africans:—

The *Venus*, of Baltimore, a ship of 466 tons, sailed in April with 860 slaves on board for the Havana, W. Phillips, master. She is now, in November, reported to be back on the coast, fully armed and prepared for resistance. On her last voyage, she cleared, after paying all expenses, 200,000 dollars.

The *Traveller*, a Baltimore schooner, after coasting here for some weeks, collecting rice, &c., for the factories, sailed in May with a full cargo of slaves for the Havana. She is reported to be again on the coast.

The *Wyoming*, captured by H. B. M. brig *Buzzard*, and sent to the United States.

The *Eagle*, of Baltimore, sent home by a British cruiser.

In April, two American schooners sent into Sierra Leone by H. B. M. brigs *Lyle* and *Saracen*, completely fitted for the slave-trade.—The court would not receive them on account of their being Americans.

The *Hugh Boyle*, of Baltimore, a schooner of 120 tons, sailed in the spring with 460 slaves on board. She returned a short time since from Havana, and about the middle of October sailed again from the Gallinas with a full cargo of slaves.

The *Mary Ann Cussard* was taken, fitted for the slave-trade, and sent into Sierra Leone, by Lieut. Kellett, of H. B. M. brig *Brisk*. The Court would not receive her, and Lieut. Kellett was amerced in damages for violating the American flag. Two weeks afterwards she was taken with more than 200 slaves.

The *Tago* was taken by the *Termagant*, and carried into Sierra Leone, completely fitted for slaves. The Court refused to receive her. Not long afterwards she was taken by the *Saracen*, just as she was about to receive her slaves on board. She had made away with the American flag and papers, and the Spanish up at the time; consequently she was condemned and cut up.

The *Euphrates*, of Baltimore, taken by Lord F. J. Russell, delivered to me in July, and sent to Philadelphia in August.

The *Jack Wilding*, of Baltimore, schooner, Wm. Young, commander, taken in British Acra, full cargo and 1100 doubloons, by H. B. M. brig *Dolphin*.

The *Waukun*, captured in New Cestors in July, then under Spanish, but a short time before under American colours, (of New Orleans.)

The *Victoria*, of New Orleans, on this coast during most of the summer, under American colours doing business for the slavers. She sailed from here with about 400 slaves, and was captured under Spanish colours at St. Jago de Cuba, with 270 on board, the rest having perished.

The *Rebecca*, of Baltimore, taken under Spanish colours, and carried into Sierra Leone and condemned. Her American papers and flag were found on board her, with a letter from her owner, J. Murphy, of Baltimore, directing the captain how to proceed—to destroy the American colours and papers when the slaves should be received, &c.

The *George Cook*, of Baltimore, W. Weems, master, sailed in September from Kabende, with 320 slaves.

The *Butterfly*, American brigantine, captured in English waters, and carried into Sierra Leone.

My Boy, schooner, of New Orleans. Last year she sailed from the coast with a full cargo of slaves. In October last she was captured at British Acra, fitted for the slave-trade—J. Harvey, master.

Charleston, of Charleston, sailed from Gallinas in January last, with 300 slaves.

Hyperion, of Baltimore, William Hackland, master, some time on the coast under American colours.—November, 1838, she was taken under Spanish colours and condemned.

Mary Cashing, of Baltimore, once taken and brought into Sierra Leone, and cleared on account of her American character. A few months afterwards, on the 21st of October, 1839, she was brought in with 427 slaves on board. Captain an American.

The *Mary*, of Baltimore, taken at Gallinas, completely fitted for the slave-trade, carried into Sierra Leone, cleared on account of her American character.

The *Sarah and Priscilla*, schooner, of Baltimore, now on the coast, all prepared for slaves.

ANTI-SLAVERY SENTIMENTS AT THE SOUTH.—We have reason to believe that Christians in slave-holding states are becoming more and more uneasy in view of the system of slavery, and that many are anxiously and prayerfully inquiring, "Lord what wilt thou have me to do?" The example of the Rev. Dr. Brisbane, late of South Carolina, in emancipating twenty slaves, is said to be exerting a powerful influence in the Baptist denomination at the south. A widow in the far south, belonging to the Presbyterian church, has communicated to a member of our committee her determination to emancipate all her slaves, some ten or twelve, and is now making arrangements to remove them to a free state. She acknowledges that she cannot hold them in slavery without violating the precepts of the gospel, and wounding continually her conscience. When at the north some months since she declined partaking of the communion until she had freed herself from the legal relation in which she stood to her slaves. A gentleman residing in Maryland has recently addressed a letter to Mr. Birney, stating facts with regard to the enormities of the system of slavery even in that state—which have not, he is sure, been over-stated, and communicating the pleasing intelligence that he is making arrangements to emancipate on the soil, his own slaves. He states further that he has been brought to view the sinfulness of slavery, and the duty of immediate emancipation, by the writings of Mr. Birney. In view of these, and similar facts, Christians at the north have great encouragement to labour and pray for the diffusion of light, and the influence of the Holy Spirit upon the hearts and consciences of slave-holders.

WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA.—SUPPRESSION OF DOCUMENTS.—(From the *Colonial Reformer*)—We call the earnest attention of our readers to the following correspondence, between the executive and the colonial office, on one of the distorted features of the rent system. The first is a despatch of our late excellent governor, Sir Lionel Smith, to Lord Normanby.

King's House, 17th June, 1839.

My lord,—I have the honour to enclose an opinion of the attorney-general's, to which I request your lordship's attention. Its effects upon the peasantry appear to me to be most mischievous, as it enables an overseer of a property to eject a labourer from his grounds at any time, and to take possession (as has been done in several instances) of the provisions which the labourer had planted.

I have great doubts whether this opinion upon the law is correct; and I therefore transmit it, that your lordship may, should you think proper, refer it to the crown law-officers at home.

I have, &c.

LIONEL SMITH.

(Signed)

The Marquess of Normanby.

The cases on which the attorney-general's opinion had been sought, were reported by Mr. stipendiary justice Finlayson, and were to this effect:

That Mr. Sinclair, the attorney for Hampden, had sued two labourers, named Reid and Matthewson, for rent at 5s. per week—that no agreement had been entered into to pay such rent, but that they had been told they would be charged at that rate. Mr. Finlayson, on the matter being brought before the petty court, expressed the opinion, that, in the absence of any agreement to pay rent, the bench could not give judgment for the claim. Mr. Carnaby considered that as a specific demand was made for rent, and the parties remained in possession, they were liable to be sued for such rent, but he thought the demand too high, and that 3s. 4d. would be enough. The three local magistrates, however, were, as a matter of course, of opinion that their brother planter should have all he demanded, and judgment was accordingly given for the 5s. a week.

Mr. Finlayson, in submitting the case to the executive, explains his views of the case in the following terms—"My impression is, that unless a party shall voluntarily give up his former possession, and agree to pay rent, no rent can be legally demanded from him. It is then open to the proprietor to give the three months notice to quit and eject the party. If he remain in possession after the three months notice has expired, and after a specific amount of rent has been demanded, I should then, and not till then, hold him liable in payment of rent."

The soundness of Mr. Finlayson's opinion we should have imagined, would have been liable to no dispute; we had always understood that in such cases the magistrates had no summary jurisdiction—that the only legal remedy for the landlord was by an action on the case before a jury, for use and occupation. The attorney-general, however, it will be seen views the matter very differently. He gives the following

OPINION.

"Apparently the majority of magistrates decided properly, if the persons were weekly tenants before the notice of 5s.; if not tenants at all, they could be dispossessed without having recourse to 1 Vic. c. 3. When the term of a tenant has expired, if his landlord gives him notice of a certain rent in case he holds on, then, if he holds on, he must pay that rent."

(Signed.)

D. O'REILLY.

Let us now proceed to lay before our readers the reply transmitted by the colonial office:—

Downing Street, 15th August, 1839.

Sir—Having referred your predecessor's despatch, No. 126, of the 17th June, relative to the liability of tenants in Jamaica under certain circumstances to pay rent, to her Majesty's law-officers, with the request that they would state whether they considered the view of the subject taken by the attorney-general of Jamaica to be correct, I have the honour to enclose to you for your information and guidance, a copy of the law-officers' opinion, from which you will perceive that they do not concur with the attorney-general of Jamaica in his construction of the law.

I am, &c.

NORMANBY.

(Signed)

The Rt. Hon. Sir C. T. Metcalfe, Bart., G.C.B., &c. &c. &c.

So! The crown lawyers of Great Britain have decided that the opinion of the attorney-general of Jamaica (as usual) is bad law! We are now so accustomed to these things that we feel no surprise, but we are surprised that the government make no attempt to afford a permanent remedy to prevent the constant recurrence of the same evil.

But what we wish to draw especial attention to, is the fact, that although Lord Normanby says he has enclosed the opinions of the Queen's law-officers to our governor, for his information and guidance, yet the public

up to this moment have been kept in profound ignorance of the existence of such a document! And what is still more mysterious is, that *that document*, although so pointedly referred to by the colonial secretary, is entirely suppressed in the papers laid before parliament, from which we have extracted this correspondence.

Whence then arises this most extraordinary suppression? and at whose instigation has it been done?

We trust that our friends in England will look to this; it appears exceedingly suspicious. We fear it is another sacrifice at the shrine of conciliation, and at the expense of the black population.

THE REV. T. E. WARD.—The Baptist Western Union have passed unanimously the following resolutions:—

I. That believing the great principle of English law that, "*a slave, on touching British ground immediately becomes free*," applies equally to the British Colonies, this meeting would protest against the manner in which such Africans as are rescued from slavery by her Majesty's cruisers are generally treated in this island.

II. That in the opinion of this meeting the apprenticeship to which the said Africans are subjected, is very little better in principle, and in many respects worse in practice, than that from which the labouring population of these colonies have recently been delivered; that husbands are liable to be separated from their wives, and brothers or other members of a family from each other; and should they abscond for the purpose of visiting their relatives, are still farther liable to be seized, fettered, and forced back to the scene of their bondage.

III. That this meeting highly approve of the conduct of their esteemed brother, the Rev. Thomas E. Ward, in attempting to secure the rights and privileges of the indentured Africans, who, in consequence of being shamefully maltreated, recently fled from the property of Thos. M'Neel, Custos of Westmoreland, and were seized by the Trelawny Police, ironed, and conveyed to gaol, though bail had been repeatedly offered for them.

Courts of Reconciliation, as recommended by Sir C. Metcalfe, have been brought into operation in several parts of Jamaica. This is said to be another part of the scheme for getting rid of the stipendiary magistracy. We shall see how they will work.

The following is from the *Jamaica Dispatch*:—"A strong suspicion is entertained that the Chief Justice, Sir Joshua Rowe, will not return to this Island, to resume his seat in our superior courts; but that he is likely to receive a small pension for retiring. One thing is very certain—that the new Judicial Bill has excited considerable sensation; and that a stir has been made as to the appointments. Mr. Middleton has already sailed; and from the sale of Mr. M'Dougall's furniture, &c. it seems he has some intention of quitting the Island. We are not certain, however, whether these gentlemen are candidates for the bench,—but it is as likely as unlikely. Time will show all things!"

The reply of the grand Jury at a late assize in this Island furnishes the following extracts:—"It is gratifying to us to have the testimony of your honour in favour of the general good conduct of the labouring population, notwithstanding the attempts which have been made to mislead and delude them. That there is an indisposition to continuous labour is most true, but it is to be principally attributed to the nature of things arising from a fertile soil and warm climate, where the wants are few and nature furnishing everything.

"We regret that owing chiefly, to excessive drought, the Island will yield a very small return of its staple commodity, and we fear that, in some situations, the ensuing crop will suffer materially from the same cause."

The drought is thus referred to by the same paper elsewhere:—"A gentleman just arrived from St. Mary, gives us an unfavourable account of the state of that parish. He reports that estates are suffering from severe drought, that the canes have been materially injured, particularly the young plants—there is no water for the mills, and that they are obliged to carry water in puncheons for the use of the boiling and still houses."

The same paper expresses its "absolute opinion" that, without "a very large increase of labourers within a short period, the agricultural prospects of the island will be totally blighted." Is immigration, then, a remedy for drought, as well as every other ill? Even Sir Simon Haughton Clark has "expressed his determination of sending out a thousand labourers to his own estates." "First catch your hare," Sir Simon. The condition of course is, that they are to be turned off at a moment's notice if they refuse an invitation to a profligate revel.

BARBADOS.—DESPERATE EFFORTS TO PREVENT EMIGRATION. [From the *Liberal*.] The following brief description of a scene which took place in the police office of the notorious Dr. Bascom, we lay before the public for their consideration, and for that of his Excellency Sir Evan John Macgregor likewise. His Excellency cannot fail to perceive that he has a duty to perform—a duty, so plainly, so obviously, so unequivocally necessary, that we have hardly a doubt of his shrinking from its performance. It is time indeed that the character of the magistracy of this colony should be relieved from the stigma cast on it, by the appointment of men who every day afford instances, not only of their want of self-respect, but of regard for the majesty of the law and the dignity of their sovereign.

Cadwallader Redman was summoned to attend at the police station of St. Joseph, as a witness against W. C. Hoppe for a breach of the gagging act; when there, he was himself placed at the bar, and arraigned on a similar charge, without having the least previous notice, and consequently without the opportunity of preparing his defence or citing witnesses.

During the trial, Mr. Day was observed in the office, and the investigation was suspended by the following proceedings.

Dr. Bascom sent for a police sergeant, and on his entering the room, pointed to Mr. Day, and in a loud voice directed him to bring that man to the bar. The following colloquy then ensued.

Day.—I have received no summons.

Bascom.—Come to that bar.

Day.—It will require force to place me there.

The policeman was directed to place Mr. Day at the bar, and hands being laid upon him, Mr. Day walked up.

Bascom.—What business have you here?

Day.—This is a public office, I am interested in the trial, and I claim a right to be here.

Bascom.—I order you, sergeant Marshall, to put that man out of the office.

Day.—I will not go unless forcibly put out.

Bascom.—You are the fellow, the notorious enemy of the country, who are going about seducing the people away.

Day.—You are a notorious liar, I'll not allow an imputation so grossly personal to pass unanswered on the spot.

Bascom.—Go out of the office, you have no business here.

Day.—I will not go unless forced out.

Bascom.—Sergeant Marshall, I order you to take that man out of the station house, put him out of the yard.

The policeman hereupon gently took hold of Mr. Day's arm, who, making no resistance, was quietly led out, Bascom remarking as he went:—"Stop my boy, I'll show you something. I'll cool you."

The trial then proceeded, and Redman being as a matter of course convicted, was sentenced to pay a fine of fifty pounds, or suffer three months imprisonment.

Redman gave notice of appeal, and being required to give bail for the prosecution of the appeal, brought forward Mr. Day and another, but Dr. Bascom refused to accept Mr. Day, although that gentleman offered to swear to his qualification; and Redman being unable to bring forward another, he is consigned to jail until his appeal shall be heard.

Mr. Hoppe was also convicted and sentenced to the fine of £50, from which he appealed likewise.

We are happy to inform the public that the decision of Police Magistrate Applewhaite in the case of Mr. Brown, whom he wished to make pay a fine of £50 for a breach of the Emigration Act, for hiring his cart to bring a few articles to Bridge-town, was reversed on Thursday last. Mr. Hoppe's appeal against Dr. Bascom's conviction and sentence of £50 penalty was also heard and modified to £25. Mr. Hoppe preferred another appeal to the governor and council.—*Liberal*.

The trial of Mr. John Taylor, on a charge of selling British subjects into slavery in Texas, came on in the court of vice-admiralty on the 26th of June. He was found guilty, and sentenced to transportation for fourteen years. Out of the six persons so enslaved, five have been recovered by the efforts of the British government, to which it is said the Texian authorities have readily lent their assistance.

"Something must be done to stop emigration," say the proprietors. Leave it to itself, is the reply, we make,—and has not the experience of three months proved that we were right? Look at the *Barbadian* of the 6th instant, speaking of this bone of contention, the emigration act: "At the same time we must say we expect it will be disallowed,—we have always thought so!—and although we do not blame the legislature for passing the act, yet we have an opinion, that if things had been left to take their course, without passing any restrictive acts, it would have been better for the country."—*Liberal*.

ANTIGUA.—Sir William Colebrooke has made another effort, by a circular despatch, to induce the legislatures of the Leeward islands to concur in the erection of circuit courts, but without success. In concluding his message to the house of assembly in Antigua after their refusal, he says, "The claims of this community to respect for the enlightened course it pursued during the eventful changes of 1834, and the expectations which they naturally raised, will enhance the disappointment which the decision of your honourable house must occasion—I do not, however, regret having again endeavoured to obtain your support to a measure so essential to the due protection of the constitutional rights and privileges of all classes of the people."

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S.—Eleven persons who had emigrated from this island to Demerara have lately returned, giving an unfavourable account of the climate, and of the inordinate labour required of them.—*Advertiser*.

DOMINICA.—The editor of the *Dominican* gives the following historical review of the causes and progress of the political contentions of which this island has been the theatre and the victim.

"Although not yet prominently set forth and avowed, yet no man who has bestowed the smallest degree of attention on the character and progress of the political warfare that has been waging in this island for the last seven years, will deny that it is a contest which has arisen in the repeated and unwise attempts, from the moment the coloured people became possessed of political rights, of a few of our white brethren, headed by Mr. Blanc, now happily no longer in the council, to 'keep down' the coloured people, and mark them out as a distinct and inferior class, by the silent but sure operation of legislative enactment, aided by a course of policy in the judicial tribunals, whether civil or criminal, which plainly intimated to the coloured man to beware of his political opinions—to beware how he voted at an election—how he voted in the legislature. It is no novelty in this island to state, that the history of the present hostile feeling of many of our white brethren against the coloured people (which after all forms the main ingredient of the distracted state of things) is the history of the political manoeuvres of Mr. Blanc to 'keep down' the coloured people, in order that he might preserve the unlimited and irresponsible power, so arbitrarily exercised in his long day of sunshine, which the situations of attorney-general and leader of the council, added to powerful influence in the house of assembly, may so easily command in a West Indian community.

"Although in 1832, when the coloured people first exercised their political rights, it was perfectly in their power to return to the assembly more than three gentlemen from among their body, yet they gave a proof of their moderation—forgot and forgave the long struggle and large expense to which they had been put in pursuit of their rights—by returning that small number out of the nineteen composing the assembly. No long space of time had intervened, before it became manifest that no attention was paid in the assembly to the opposition of those gentlemen to measures pursued in furtherance of the usual old policy; in consequence of which, vacancies occurring, two more coloured persons were elected. Soon after, these five gentlemen, thus honoured by the bulk of

the electors, were insulted in the legislature, and the coloured population through them, by the passage of a *Census Bill*, objected to by them, and subsequently rejected by the executive on the very ground of their objection, under which the population of the island was to be ascertained, with a classification to distinguish the "free persons of colour," from the "white persons," and this too at a time when there were no slaves in the island. The ill feeling which this subject naturally generated, added to the unsuccessful attempts of the coloured members to procure the passing of any measure introduced by them, even a trifling grant for educational purposes, produced the first overt symptom of a class division between the white and coloured inhabitants, evinced on the return of coloured gentlemen at several subsequent elections, and accompanied by a gradual but marked alienation of kind feelings towards us, even in our more private relations with our white brethren, for unfortunately Mr. Blanc's idea of putting down a political opponent stretches even to the begging him if possible. The increased and increasing strength of the coloured members in the lower house, although still liable to be borne down by mere majority, had the beneficial effect of disposing their white fellow-members to relax the stern aspect previously shown, by at last consenting to an educational grant, and to a bill for exempting persons from certain onerous fees (the fruitful source of extreme distress to the poorer classes) who might be acquitted on trial at the criminal sessions, or against whom bills of indictment might be ignored; but Mr. Blanc was in the council, and that was sufficient for the rejection of such measures in that branch of the legislature. The indication, however, thus given by our white brethren in the assembly of liberal sentiments was hailed by the coloured people as a sign of future good, and future enlargement of principles, but we were soon and grievously disappointed. William the Fourth of blessed memory died—a new assembly was to be chosen—the power of the coloured people was begun to be felt, and the result of the general election was apprehended on the score of the many causes of dissatisfaction which had been given them—and most unwisely, most inopportunistly did Mr. Blanc advise the immediate passing of a measure to alter the election law. The introduction and passing of this bill on the eve of a general election—visibly calculated as were its provisions to "keep down" the coloured people, naturally became the signal for an entire class division. A public meeting was convened for the purpose of petitioning the Queen against the measure—all were invited to the meeting—not one white person would join—the coloured population alone petitioned, and the result was that the bill was rejected by her Majesty, and the coloured people were thus proved to have been right in the view taken by them of that measure. Pending the interval of this rejection, Mr. Blanc did not neglect the means of influencing the approaching elections. If the coloured people could be divided—if the less enlightened among them could be successfully tampered with, his point would be gained the presence of the great Mr. Blanc, the privy councillor and attorney-general, in the humble dwelling of an unenlightened coloured voter, when the shades of evening had assumed the hue which proverbially embrowns the French cat, and under cover whereof a shake of the hand might be stealthily interchanged, was deemed and undertaken as a master-stroke of policy—Mr. Blanc did not succeed. *Sur ces entrefaites* arrived here the Roman Catholic bishop, his lordship of Agna, who for some time before had contemplated the establishment of schools and a few more chapels in this island. Mr. Blanc endeavoured to turn this pastoral visit to good political account. The bulk of the coloured population profess the Romish faith. The governor, Mr. Light, assenting, Mr. Blanc procured a sort of council to be held at government house, and gulled the bishop with the belief that the legislative council were favourable to the establishment of Roman Catholic schools and places of religious worship! Nay more, that so soon as the new house of assembly should be elected, his lordship might rest assured of receiving a large grant of money to carry out these objects. The condition of this promise of support appears to have been, that the bishop should harangue his flock in such fashion as to make the coloured voters understand that Mr. Blanc was their best political friend; accordingly, out came the first political sermon ever pronounced in the island, but it did not take; the coloured voters shrewdly said their good bishop *thought* they were mistaken, but they *knew* he was; and the sequel showed that the poor bishop *had* been gulled, for when the new assembly did pass resolutions granting a sum of money to aid in the establishment of the schools and chapels in question, a change came "o'er the spirit of his dream," and Mr. Blanc procured their rejection in council.

These various and crooked means failing, Her Majesty's privy councillor and attorney-general, with a name and a fame which he had rendered formidable before all the courts of the island, presented himself at the hustings to broach a new interpretation of the election law, and to convince the returning officer that the sense uninterruptedly put upon that law for sixty years before was erroneous; nay, that he, Mr. Blanc himself had all along been mistaken when on former occasions he had advocated the claim to vote under the same given circumstances. The returning officer, who was playing his part, lacked the courage in so much good company to tell Mr. Blanc he was both right and wrong, so that the length of time and Mr. Blanc's own former practice prevailed, and the coloured people ruled at the elections. We will pass over the detail of manœuvres by means of which, under the able guidance of Mr. attorney-general, the assembly thus constitutionally and legally elected, was, under Mr. Light's unfriendly administration made a farce of, and became a nullity; suffice it to say, that that assembly was dissolved without a meeting, and a new one ordered to be elected. At this stage of affairs Mr. Blanc, no doubt feeling he had gone far enough without succeeding, and that the moderation of the coloured people might find a limit under the pressure of the atrocious character of the schemes to which he was perpetually resorting, abandoned because he could not master the field. Not one white candidate appeared at the hustings. The coloured people were not such dolts as to follow his example. After quietly electing ten members from among themselves, they as quietly polled and elected the remaining number from among their white brethren, thereby giving a convincing proof that they did not fight against colour. This tender of friendly feeling was however rejected for a time, by the white gentlemen thus elected abstaining from taking their seats. The new house, in the view of further conciliation, altered the usual rule, by extending the time within which a member after election must take his seat; this step afforded time for reflection, and produced the desired effect. So soon as the former speaker appeared, an additional proof was given of our anxiety

to cherish the growth of better feelings, by the coloured speaker (necessarily chosen speaker at the opening of the session,) resigning the chair in order that the former occupant might re-assume it. We do not know whether our white brethren ever gave us credit for even this evident sign of a conciliatory spirit, but it is certain that the Marquis of Normanby, the then colonial minister, made it the subject of his special notice and of his marked approbation.

Mr. Blanc, who had now no influence in the lower house, had still in reserve another and the last, but delicate string to his bow. If he could no longer procure the assembly to reject government measures, and to fight the battle of opposition with the colonial office, the last desperate effort could still be made of getting the council to do so. The effort was made, and lasted some eighteen months down to last April, during which period the island remained literally without any law to meet the new system, and if the good conduct of the agricultural labourers remained unabated during this long period of anarchy and misrule, let Mr. Blanc, and such as may still be inclined to adhere to his policy be assured, that this has been owing to the confidence entertained by the peasantry that the house of assembly, as now composed, would see their newly acquired rights protected.

It is fortunate, however, under all these untoward circumstances, and when it appeared impossible for the council and assembly to agree to any one single enactment, that the parent government should have blessed this island with the administration of Major M'Phail, our present lieutenant governor, who, by the simple act of suspending Mr. Blanc from the council, (a step for which just as much reason existed ten years ago,) procured the instantaneous passing of some fourteen important bills, most of which had been passed over and over, and session after session, by the assembly, and called for throughout the island. Were they not called for? Before the passing of these bills could the planter invoke redress if his labourer had violated the terms of his agreement? He could not. Had the labourer any one to complain to if the master had not abided by his? He had not. Was there anything like adequate provision for the infirm poor among the former apprenticed labourers? None. Was not there a police force, but was there any law for the police to administer? None. Was not the barbarous law still maintained, under which persons could be sent to jail for court fees who at the criminal court might be acquitted by the petit jury, or against whom bills of indictment might be ignored by the grand jury—a law which had entailed such suffering upon persons depending on their daily labour for their daily bread, as to have induced even the old assembly to pronounce, though vainly, against it, and to have become the subject both of presentment by the grand jury, and of repeated remonstrance from the colonial minister? Lastly the character of our community will soon be elevated by the legislative grant of a few pounds for educational purposes. We might go on multiplying the numerous benefits thus derived by the colony through the manly and straight-forward course taken by Major M'Phail in removing Mr. Blanc from the council—indeed, his Excellency would have laid the community under lasting obligation, if this step had been taken to procure the enactment of any one single measure of the few we have enumerated.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In our report of the proceedings of the convention we have to make two corrections. 1st.—In the discussion on the disuse of slave-produce (p. 204) Messrs. Josiah Forster and Isaac Crewdson, instead of supporting the resolution as it stood, objected to it *in toto*. 2nd.—Dr. G. K. Prince (erroneously spelt *Price*) stated, (p. 207) that in Jamaica, "many of the slave-holders"—not *slaves*—"who had been active in destroying chapels, had not been backward in providing resources for raising them again."

Anti-Slavery Reporter.

LONDON, AUGUST 26TH.

THE Queen has been pleased, in her speech on the prorogation of parliament, to take gracious notice of the island of Jamaica, and of the West Indies generally, in the following terms.

"The legislative bodies of Jamaica have applied themselves to the preparation of laws rendered necessary or expedient by the altered state of society. Some of these laws require revision and amendment, but I have every reason to expect cordial assistance from the Assembly of Jamaica, in the salutary work of improving the condition and elevating the character of the inhabitants of that colony. The conduct of the emancipated negroes throughout the West Indies has been remarkable for tranquil obedience to the law, and a peaceable demeanour in all the relations of social life."

We are happy in having to record so high a testimony to the admirable conduct of our emancipated fellow-subjects. We trust and believe that they will continue to deserve, not only this, but more ample commendation. As to the legislative bodies of Jamaica, who have certainly applied themselves diligently enough to the business of law-making, we hope they will ponder this announcement from the throne, that of their laws "require revision and amendment." They have, no doubt, been told of this officially through Sir Charles Metcalfe; but the putting of this declaration into the mouth of her Majesty is a further step, and we trust it may be taken as an indication that the government are resolved that amendment shall be made. The Queen can scarcely be recommended to give her sanction to laws which she has thus solemnly declared to be unfit to go into operation. We are happy to see by the way that Lord John Russell has intimated to the colonial legislatures, by a circular despatch, that, if acts in which an alteration is recommended by the government are not taken into consideration within three months of their session, it will be taken as an indication that they do not mean to alter them at all. This measure has been called for by the habit, on the part of colonial legislatures, of leaving such recommendations long unnoticed, so that the law continues quietly in operation, without the sanction of her Majesty in council.

DURING the past month the exertions of our friends in the extension of anti-slavery organization throughout England have been vigorous and unceasing. After the great meeting at Birmingham, Mr. Scoble, with Messrs. Birney and Stanton in company, started on a second tour. Their first point was Leeds, in the music hall of which town a public meeting was held on the 30th of July, W. Smith, Esq., the mayor, presiding. During the proceedings the saloon was quite filled, and part was taken by the Revs. T. Scales, J. Yeadon, J. Ely, and J. E. Giles, together with Messrs. Birney, Stanton, Scoble, and Jowitt. The meeting was adapted to produce important results. At Hull our friends attended a public meeting which is described in their correspondence as extremely numerous and respectable, and which was devoted to the reception of information from the deputation. On this occasion, we are sorry to learn, the statement of Mr. Birney, notwithstanding his invariable candour and carefulness, led one of the clergymen present to the use of some offensive expressions towards that gentleman, going so far as even to question his veracity; a point on which he effectually set himself right with the auditory by a second address, and was powerfully sustained by Messrs. Stanton and Scoble. The cheers of the meeting were sufficient to assure Mr. Birney that he was fully believed, and that his high character and noble conduct were duly appreciated. On the evening of the 6th of August, a public meeting was held at North Shields, in the Scotch kirk, which had been kindly lent for the occasion, and the minister of which, the Rev. Mr. Thompson, presided. Owing to the Methodist conference being in session at Newcastle, the assembly was small, but resolutions of a satisfactory character were unanimously adopted. "On the following evening," says Mr. Scoble, whose words we will here quote, "we held our first meeting in Newcastle, the right worshipful the mayor in the chair, who gave us a hearty welcome and a good speech. A considerable part of our audience was composed of Wesleyans, principally ministers, who listened with astonishment and evident incredulity to the statements of Mr. Birney, as he laid bare the corruptions of the American churches, especially that of their own denomination. His remarks on the late decision of the Baltimore conference, rejecting in future the testimony of coloured members, whether bond or free, against white members, in all the states where the municipal laws have decided that it shall not be received in civil or criminal cases, called up our old friend the Rev. W. M. Bunting in explanation of the course pursued by the president of the conference, the Rev. Robert Newton, who was supposed to have been present at the sitting of the American conference when the abominable decision was arrived at. He stated that Mr. Newton was not present at the time—that he had borne an honest and bold testimony against slavery and prejudice against colour—and concluded by giving his most entire condemnation to the proceedings of the pro-slavery Wesleyans in America. When it was found that a deep interest had been excited by our meeting, it was decided that it should be adjourned to the following Monday; and that we should procure a larger place, as the Friends' Meeting House, in which we were assembled, was too small. The adjourned meeting was held in the chapel of the Primitive Methodists in Nelson Street, John Fenwick, Esq., *locum tenens* for the mayor, in the chair. Mr. Birney delivered a most masterly statement in continuation of the evidence on the corrupt state of the churches in America. Both his speech and Mr. Stanton's were listened to with the deepest interest and attention, and produced an immense effect on a most crowded assembly. It was supposed that there were at least sixty members of the Wesleyan conference present. At this part of the evening it was found that the chartists had made their entrance among us, for as soon as the chairman had proposed a resolution for the adoption of the meeting, one Finloch, a drunken fellow, insisted upon being heard. From that moment all became noise and confusion; no one could be heard, and finally the meeting was dissolved. Our friends, however, were determined not to be beaten by the socialists and chartists, and another meeting was called for the following Wednesday, when we met and carried our resolutions unanimously. In the meantime we learnt that considerable excitement was felt among the Wesleyans; that American slavery was the great subject of discussion; that there were conflicting opinions as to the course to be pursued; and that, finally, a letter to the British and Foreign Anti-slavery society (said to have been drafted by Dr. Bunting) from the conference, signed by its president and secretary, should be forwarded as an official and solemn declaration of their adoption of the resolution affirming the essential sinfulness of slavery, and that a strong resolution should be passed condemnatory of the proceedings of the Baltimore conference on the subject of coloured testimony. Both these movements must be considered as of the very highest importance to our cause. For, in the first place, they will settle the course of the Wesleyans throughout the kingdom on the subject of slavery, and will bring them out to our public meetings; in the second place, they will fall like a thunder-bolt on the pro-slavery Wesleyans of the United States, and will mightily strengthen the hands and sustain the efforts of the Wesleyan abolitionists of that country; and in the third place, as the united testimony of so very influential a body of christian ministers, it will tell powerfully on the general question of the universal abolition of slavery and the slave-trade. I am most happy to mention that when the address from the Baltimore conference to the British conference was read, it was received with great disapprobation by all present, and that the conference unanimously decided that so shameful a document should not 'pollute'

the record of their proceedings. When it was moved that the address should be laid on the table, I am informed that many cried out 'No! put it under the table!' This fact I have on the best authority."

The address of Mr. Bunting on this occasion we deem of so much importance that we shall insert it (with an unimportant omission for the sake of brevity,) as reported in the *Newcastle Courant*, together with that portion of Mr. Birney's speech to which it refers.

MR. BIRNEY, after narrating the adoption by the Methodist Episcopal conference at Baltimore of the obnoxious resolution concerning coloured testimony, thus proceeded:—He had understood that the gentleman (the Rev. Robert Newton) who represented the Methodists of this country at the late conference at Baltimore, was in every way worthy of the high commission with which he was charged. He doubted not, from what he had seen in the papers, that no gentleman in the whole connexion could have stirred up the people of America more to righteousness on this subject, or put down the persecution which was going on in a more signal manner, than this gentleman. Nor did he mean to say that he had not done it. Whilst he (Mr. Birney) read the extract from the speech of the bishop, he had no reason to say that this gentleman did not tell the conference what the abolitionist representing the Wesleyans of this country should have told them. When he returned to America, might he not hope that the eloquence which had been used so signally on other occasions would be found to have been exerted there, and to have been followed by corresponding effects? And if it were not followed in this way—if he could not persuade that conference to desist from an act throwing such disgrace upon itself and those connected with it, he could not have done a better thing for America, for the cause of emancipation, and for the cause of religion, than to have shaken off the dust from his feet and left them. (Loud applause.) He did hope such would yet be found to have been the course which that distinguished gentleman had thought it right to pursue.

The Rev. W. M. BUNTING said:—It was his honour to have been deputed to attend the late Anti-Slavery Convention, and nothing but a severe accident would have prevented him from fulfilling his duty on that occasion. With some exceptions which candour might not deem offensive just to refer to in the proceedings of that convention—disclaiming, for instance, some eulogies on one particular individual on whom he would not dwell, but whom he could prove to have been a betrayer (Cries of "No, no,")—whom, he repeated, he could prove to have been a betrayer of that great cause—and disclaiming also certain censures and imputations upon members of his (Mr. Bunting's) church, and upon members and ministers of the episcopal church of this country, which he was prepared to prove were entirely unjust;—with these, and some other points of exception, he begged to record thus publicly, his concurrence in its objects, its resolutions, and its general christian spirit, and his admiration of the leading parties in that conference (applause.) His principal design in now rising was to correct a statement which had been made in reference to the venerable body of ministers of which he (Mr. B.) was an unworthy member. He understood Judge Birney had assumed, that, during the proceedings of the late conference in Baltimore, which gave birth to that most infamous and detestable resolution—refusing to coloured persons in the slave-states the right to give evidence on church-trials—that during those proceedings the excellent and high-minded minister, whom the votes of the British conference had just placed at its head, was present, and gave by his presence a tacit and implied sanction to that resolution. Now he had it in charge from himself to say that such was not the fact; and that he had been in this respect, no doubt very unintentionally, but still entirely misrepresented. Mr. Newton was the bearer of, he believed, the fourth remonstrance against the system of American Slavery, especially as it obtained within the American episcopal church, which the conference had sent from this country. And he (Mr. Bunting) should have been thankful, would their time have permitted, to have made use of a host of American papers which recorded the proceedings of the Baltimore conference, and which proved to him that, by his fidelity, he must have rendered both himself and the body he represented, obnoxious to their brethren on the other side of the water. As one evidence of this he might state, it was carried by an overwhelming majority that the address of the British conference should not be published in America. Every body must see the reason of that. Had it been in accordance with their own spirit, they would have been glad to circulate it. Mr. Newton, he had further to say, was present during the first fortnight of the proceedings of the Baltimore conference; and though he had no vote or jurisdiction in that assembly, he took every opportunity that offered of reiterating and enforcing the unanimous and zealous sentiments of the British conference in reference to this subject. He was compelled, however, by his preaching engagements, to leave Baltimore a day or two before the question of the admission of coloured evidence came on. "Previously to this," said Mr. Bunting, "Mr. Newton took a private opportunity of saying to leading members of the conference,—'The eyes of the whole civilized and Christian world are upon you. I warn you to beware what course you pursue.' Now this is all, I declare conscientiously, that I think it was in the power of our representative to do. Beyond these reiterated remonstrances, it is impossible for us, consistently with the circumstances of the American episcopal church, which are different from our own, to have proceeded. There is only one step further which we could take. And in coming to conference, I assure you it was an anxious question with me whether we ought not to proceed to something more practical, amounting to a disclaimer of all future connexion with the American church while she continued in sin, (applause.) If you will permit me I will just tell you on what grounds I came to the negative of that question. In the first place, because by such a step we should forfeit the opportunity and right of reiterating the remonstrances which experience proved had already been in a great degree effective; and in the second place, because I considered that, while there are to be found some of the worst specimens of fallen nature in America, there are also to be found there some of the noblest specimens of humanity. I know that memorials from upwards of 10,000 Methodists had been presented to the Baltimore conference in favour of abolition, and that among them were upwards of 500 ministers; and I was informed that they constituted only a tenth part of the members of the Episcopal Methodist church of America who hold the same sentiments. I thought in these circumstances, that not only was it inexpedient to lose our influence over the delinquent majority, and our opportunities of re-

monstrating against their misdoings from time to time, but that it would be further ungenerous in us to desert that noble band of abolitionists, who expect so much from our sympathy and support. Hence I came to the conclusion, that it was advisable to maintain that sort of ceremonious intercourse with our American brethren, which would retain to us the opportunity of exercising such moral influence as we possessed over them, and give support and countenance to those of the ministers and people who are abolitionists, and who, I trust, are destined in brief time to become the majority. I for one,—and I know that there are those present, members of the same conference, to whose sympathies I am indebted on this occasion still more than to your indulgence—I, for one, would never belong to any section of the catholic church of Christ which would not employ its practical influence in this righteous cause within the limits of anything like Christian discretion; on the contrary, I feel proud that I have the privilege to belong to a denomination which has never withheld its protest against slavery all the world over, but particularly against that noxious, pestilential, mephitic, and abominable system, which obtains in liberty-canting but slave-holding America.—(Applause). I imagine that I do not improperly disclose any part of the proceedings of my reverend brethren, when I state that only this morning an appeal to their sympathy was presented from the committee of this association, of which I am as good a member as any of you; and that by an individual, to whom nothing but the delicacy of relationship prevents me from referring with reverential eulogy. An answer was proposed, and on his motion adopted, pledging the British conference to the renewal of all those efforts and expostulations against the system of American slavery by which it has hitherto been distinguished (applause).

Mr. BIRNEY disclaimed the slightest intention to impugn the conduct of Mr. Newton; but to show the futility of transmitting protests to the American conference, he had only to mention that they were laid on the table as things unfit for publication, and their contents carefully kept from the eyes of the world. Nothing, in fact, was known of them out of the American conference. If he could be furnished with copies of all the addresses which had been sent from the British to the American conference, he should see to their publication in America.

Mr. BUNTING observed, that the addresses previous to that of last year had all been circulated with the conference minutes.

Mr. BIRNEY—I shall be much obliged to you for copies of them.

Mr. BUNTING—Certainly; and I shall be most happy to share with you the expense of their circulation. (Applause.)

Owing to the absence from home of G. H. Head, Esq., a public meeting could not be held, as had been intended, at Carlisle. Arrangements for holding one at Kendal were also frustrated by providential circumstances; but some good it is hoped was done here by private and social interviews. "On Wednesday evening," (we again have recourse to the words of Mr. Scoble) "according to appointment, we held a public meeting at Lancaster, Edward Dawson, Esq., of Adcliffe Park, a county magistrate, in the chair. We found him to be a true friend to the cause, and a man of great influence and piety. On his return from the continent I have reason to hope a society will be organised, auxiliary to our own. The meeting was held in the commodious building used by the society of Friends for religious worship, and was exceedingly well attended. The Independent minister, Mr. Bell, and other influential persons were present. Last evening we held our meeting in this town (Preston) at the theatre, John Furness, Esq., in the chair. It was a good meeting, and so strong an impression was made that I am expecting this morning to meet a party of gentlemen to form an auxiliary. The Wesleyan superintendent of this circuit, the Rev. Mr. —, and the Rev. Mr. Bedford, of the same denomination, were present, as were also the Rev. Mr. Giles, (Baptist,) and the Rev. Messrs. Carson and Slate, (Independents,) and several private gentlemen on the platform. Mr. Bedford made a good speech, and I am quite satisfied that the Wesleys now intend to bestir themselves; they have only been waiting for the decision of conference."

While Mr. SCOBLE has been thus actively engaged in the north, the esteemed treasurer of the society, has been similarly employed in the south, aided by Mr. Stanton. The proceedings of this deputation we venture to give from Mr. Alexander's letter, in the form of a journal:—

"July 17th.—Meeting at Chatham. John Fincham in the chair. The first speaker, after the opening of the meeting by the chairman, was Samuel Medley, an elderly gentleman, who addressed the audience in a very interesting manner. He referred to the days of his early boyhood, when he resided at Liverpool, at that time the great seat of the slave-trade, and when not more than two persons could be found who had the virtue and moral courage openly to denounce this odious traffic. In visiting the ships engaged in this trade, he had early formed a very decided opinion of the cruel and indefensible character of the commerce in men—an opinion which he was then told by some of his seniors would change with riper years; but it had remained unalterable, and he had the satisfaction of knowing that his juvenile detestation of the slave-trade and slavery was now in unison with the sentiments of the whole British people. We cannot, however, notice the various interesting observations made by this and subsequent speakers. Among those who took part in the proceedings of the meeting were William Williams, a Wesleyan minister, William Lewis, a Baptist minister, and a young man, a grandson of S. Medley, besides the deputation. The meeting was well attended and highly satisfactory. William Lewis, not having had an opportunity to address more than a few words to the meeting, expressed his willingness to give a lecture on the subject of slavery, &c., on a future occasion, an offer which was very gladly accepted.

"July 18th. Meeting at Rochester;—Clayton, a clergyman, in the chair. The meeting was well attended, and was addressed by

— Drawbridge, minister of the Established church, the Wesleyan minister who took part in the meeting at Chatham, and the deputation. The chairman, in concluding the meeting, made an interesting and affecting allusion to the advantage which the cause of religion appeared to have derived from the abolition of slavery, as stated by the Bishop of Jamaica and other witnesses. He remarked, that if only one soul had been brought to a saving knowledge of Christ in consequence of the religious advantages enjoyed in the state of freedom as compared with that of slavery, it was a rich reward for the twenty millions which the people of England had paid for abolition. George Hawker, rector of St. Nicholas parish, Rochester, had kindly consented to take the chair, but was prevented by being unexpectedly under the necessity of going to London.

"July 19th. Meeting at Maidstone. Was large, and was addressed by — Jenkins, Independent Minister, the Baptist Minister, — Spong and others. A society was regularly formed on this occasion, and the deputation have the satisfaction of reporting that active means are in progress to collect funds for the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society. There is also reason to believe that a Ladies' Association will be shortly established in this town.

"July 20th. Meeting at Canterbury.—Cresswell, Independent minister was in the chair, and addressed the meeting in a very interesting speech.—Davies, Baptist minister, and the deputation took part in the proceedings. An Anti-Slavery Society does not at present exist at Canterbury, but the chairman gave the deputation an assurance that a society should be formed in this important town.

"July 21st. Meeting at Margate. This meeting was small, partly, perhaps, in consequence of a religious meeting held the same evening. We however hope that it may not have been wholly useless. It is no small cause of satisfaction to the friends of the negro in the labour in which they are engaged, if they can believe that, in some humble measure, they are promoting an object identified to so great an extent, with practical christianity."

In addition, we have to mention that a public meeting of the friends of the abolition of slavery and the slave-trade was held at Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, on Thursday evening the 6th instant, at the Friends' Meeting House. W. Mackworth Dolben, Esq., of Finedon Hall, took the chair. The Revs. C. P. Vivian, Thomas Sanderson, E. Craig, of Burton Latimer, J. Renals, R. Davies, and G. Taylor; Messrs. Chapman, Bearn, Corrie, Keep, Curtis, &c., &c., were present, and the room was well filled. By the third resolution, an Auxiliary Society for the town and neighbourhood was constituted, and the formation of a Ladies' Branch recommended. W. M. Dolben, Esq., was appointed President: the Rev. C. P. Vivian and Charles Hill, Esq., Vice-Presidents; Mr. Chapman, Treasurer; and Rev. G. Taylor, Secretary.

WE have great pleasure in noticing the *entire* accordance of the resolutions passed at several of the late anti-slavery meetings with the important non-communication resolutions of the convention. Those adopted at Newcastle are in the following terms:—

"That this meeting deeply sympathizes with their American brethren in their struggle to deliver 'the home of the brave and the free' from the moral pollutions of slavery and the distinction of colour; and expresses its firm conviction, that were the churches of Christ, as in duty they ought, to make these delinquencies matters of discipline, a death-blow would be given to sins against which the voice of nature itself cries out.

"That this meeting most deeply deplores the fact that several of the churches in the United States of North America are stained with the sin of slavery—a sin repugnant to our common Christianity; and this meeting therefore earnestly appeals to every section of the Christian church in this island, to adopt such measures as may be deemed most effectual to induce our American brethren to put away, at once and for ever, this deadly evil from amongst them."

With equal pleasure we see the same sentiment distinctly embodied in the following preamble and resolutions adopted at the sixth annual meeting of the Glasgow Emancipation Society, held on the 7th instant.

"Whereas slavery, under every modification, is a daring insult to God, who made man in his own image,—a glaring outrage on all the rights of humanity,—and expressly condemned by the precepts and spirit of Christianity, this meeting regard not only those who hold slaves as deeply guilty, but likewise all who neglect to use the influence which they possess to discourage or suppress it, as partakers in the sin.

"Wherefore Resolved,

"I. That we now pledge ourselves to use all our influence, in every relation in life, to put an end to slavery; and earnestly to remonstrate with those (be they Britons or Americans) who either retain their fellow men in bondage, or make gain by the infamous system of slavery.

"II. That this meeting earnestly and affectionately entreat the Christian Churches in Great Britain and Ireland, of all denominations, through their ministers and members to remonstrate, as opportunity presents, through their church courts, or other religious organizations, according to their own forms, with the American churches and brethren, on the guilt they incur—the injury they inflict on religion—and the dishonour they do to God, by retaining slave-holders in their communion; and to urge them, by all the motives presented by their common faith, to give no countenance to this monstrous evil, but to put away from their religious fellowship every man who holds his fellow man in bondage, as they value the Divine favour, the interests of religion, and the rights of humanity."

WE have papers from Jamaica to the 22nd of July. At the Cornwall July assize court the notorious Mr. Grant, the prosecutor of Mr. Oughton, was indicted by order of the colonial office.

Ten separate bills of indictment are stated to have been preferred against him, nine of which were ignored by the grand jury. In one case they returned a true bill, and upon this bill Grant has been tried, and found not guilty. From a Jamaica jury this is a matter of course, and will do nothing towards establishing a hoary profligate's innocence. We are not in possession of any particulars of the trial.

The grand jury had, also of course, returned a true bill to an indictment for obstructing the police in the discharge of their duty, which the attorney-general had preferred against the Rev. T. E. Ward. The reverend gentleman is stated by the *Baptist Herald* to have had no notice of such an intention, and to have given no instructions to his solicitor upon the supposition of such an occurrence. Under the natural impulse of the moment this gentleman moved the court to traverse this case, it not being supposed that the party could be prepared for instant defence. On the intelligence reaching Mr. Ward at Falmouth, however, he set out for Montego Bay, where he appeared the next morning, and requested that the trial might be at once brought on, instead of being suspended over him for four months. This was not allowed, and Mr. Ward was ultimately bound over to appear at the November assize. The Baptist Western Union have passed some resolutions in relation to this matter, which we have inserted in the proper place. The *Baptist Herald* makes great, and as it would appear, well-founded complaint of the stealthiness of the proceeding against Mr. Ward.

The vestry of St. Catherine have come to the following somewhat extraordinary resolution:—

"That the rate of hire to be paid labourers to be employed on the roads be left to the discretion of the waywardens; and that the waywardens be empowered to allow to a proper person attending at the rate of seven shillings and sixpence per day for not less than twenty labourers daily, such person to make oath that the work has been *bonâ fide* done and performed." This sum of 7s. 6d. we take of course to be currency, or 5s. sterling. Now, here are five shillings a-day offered by the planters themselves—for the vestry consists of planters—to an able man for working on the roads; and yet the same gentlemen complain that they cannot get people to work on the estates for twenty pence! We should wonder if they could. The *Despatch* cries out against this resolution, as "setting an example of extravagance," and as "holding out an encouragement to the labourers to persist in their extortionate demands;" but we think this is not fair towards the vestry of St. Catherine. These gentlemen have to tax themselves too severely for the money they spend, to be at all likely to be extravagant with it, and are, as planters, too deeply interested in getting estate labour cheap, to pay unnecessarily dear for labour on the roads. No doubt they are for procuring the labour they want as cheap as they can get it; and their offering five shillings a day for it is but bidding for an article in the market what they know to be its market price. This quite agrees with what we learn from other sources, that the full work of an able labourer in Jamaica is worth five shillings per day. And why should any man take for his labour less than it is worth! Or, if the planters will not give for labour what it is worth, why should they have it? Here is testimony out of their own mouth, that they are trying to get labour for estates at one-third of its value in the market; and under these circumstances they raise an outcry that the labourers are idle, ungrateful, and everything else that is wicked, because they are not eager to work continuously on estates!

UNDER our West India intelligence we insert an article from the *Colonial Reformer*, on the subject of a remarkable, and we fear a characteristic episode in the conciliatory administration of Sir Charles Metcalfe. The facts are briefly these. On the 17th of June, 1839, Sir Lionel Smith, then governor of Jamaica, sent home an unsatisfactory and mischievous opinion, given by the attorney-general of that island on one point of the rent question, that it might be referred to the law officers of the crown in England. On the 15th of August, Lord Normanby addressed a dispatch to Sir C. T. Metcalfe, who had succeeded to the government, informing him that the law officers of the crown in England did not concur with the attorney-general of Jamaica, and that he had enclosed their opinion for the governor's information and guidance. Now the editor of the *Reformer* tells us that this opinion has never been made public in Jamaica, where therefore Mr. O'Reilly's erroneous law is left to work continued mischief; and he further notices the fact, which struck us also on the appearance of the document, that this same important opinion is not produced in the parliamentary papers with the despatch which refers to it. (Papers relative to the West Indies, 1840, part I. p. 2.) We are almost inclined to think there must have been some accident in this matter. The suppression by Sir Charles Metcalfe of a legal opinion unwelcome to Jamaica planters we can account for very well,—it is "conciliation;" but, if either principals or underlings in the colonial office have suppressed a document which should have been laid on the table of the British parliament, it is an impertinence which ought to be visited with no light rebuke. If we could think it possible that Lord John Russell, by whom the papers in question were laid before the house, had so far lent himself to the West Indians as to connive at the suppression of the document referred to, we should not know in what terms to express our indignation. Surely his lordship will give some explanation of this mystery.

An article in the *Guiana Reformer* draws attention to the encroachments which have been made by the Brazilians in the

interior parts of that colony. "Instigated, it is said, by an out-cast planter who has resided in the Brazils since his escape from the gallows some years ago, through one of those loop holes of which, unfortunately for the ends of justice, there are but too many in English as well as Dutch law, the Brazilians have carried their encroachments so far as to deprive us, according to Mr. Schomburgk's account, of at least two-thirds of what has been heretofore considered British Guiana." This is of no small importance as a territorial question, and it deserves on this ground the immediate attention of the British government; it is more particularly important to us, however, as affecting the interests of humanity and freedom. It is stated by the paper from which we quote, that "the sole object which the Brazilians appear to have had in view in the commission of this act of wholesale robbery, has been the acquisition of a more extended range for their Indian slave hunts."

This is a very serious matter. Our Indian fellow-subjects must not be hunted down and carried into slavery by any people on earth, and least of all by the Brazilians. They are entitled to British protection, and the voice of British humanity must be lifted up on their behalf. "At present," says our contemporary, "a few policemen with their batons would be quite sufficient to dislodge the Brazilians from our territory, to put a stop to their slave-hunting there, and to preserve the peace of our lady the Queen upon our Brazilian frontier; but some time hence, if our interests in that quarter are now neglected, when the Brazilian empire shall have gathered strength and consolidation, when Upper Guiana shall have become a second Texas, a rendezvous of slave-hunters, slave-drivers, and discontented planters, who will be glad to resume their favourite pursuits under a flag, and to transfer their allegiance to a government, which will protect them in their deeds of oppression—when in a country intersected with rivers and creeks as thickly as the human body is with veins and arteries, we shall see vessels sailing from our very harbours laden with slave produce shipped as British, and conveyed from the Ripununi and Upper Essequibo in spite of custom-house regulations which it will be impossible to enforce, we may then find to our cost that we have got a thorn in our side which some thousands of bayonets may scarcely be able to eradicate."

A WRITER in the *Colonial Magazine* for the present month strongly asserts the beneficial results of emancipation to the proprietors of the West India colonies. He tells us also, that, before the East India Produce Committee of the House of Commons, Mr. McQueen has recently asserted, "that the former slaves were disinclined to work at present, and that when they did labour, wages from 4s. to 5s. a day were demanded!—that the negroes indulged in all kind of dissipation, extravagance, and luxury, 'drinking champagne and bottled porter; the women wearing silks and satins, &c. &c.; that the 'whole of the British West India colonies are now cultivated at a loss,' and that ruin is at present staring in the face of every proprietor of a West India estate." This is like Mr. McQueen and the West India proprietors; but they seem, in this instance, to have overshot their mark. Our readers will understand the following observation. "These statements had a most prejudicial effect as regards the West Indies on the committee, (who were not members of the West India interest,) and quite contrary to that intended by the witness, and those who produced him to make these extraordinary assertions." And so they employ the *Colonial Magazine*, which is, we suppose, in "the West India interest," to contradict them!

WE are gratified in perceiving that the *Citizen*, a highly respectable magazine of the Emerald isle, has taken a friendly notice of the General Anti-slavery convention, and given an abstract of its proceedings. We give the following extract.

"The recent Anti-slavery Convention of the christian nations of the world—for the representative opinion of England, Ireland, Scotland, France, Germany, Spain, and America, may be fairly taken upon such a question as that of christendom—is a remarkable event in the history of human amelioration. Whether all that was hoped from its assembling be realised or no, or whether the good fruit of its exertions appear and ripen in a year or a generation, is not the question now to be considered. A great and good thing in itself has been accomplished. The delegates of nations, unarmed, save with the energy of faith in God and charity towards suffering man—unauthorised, save by the authority of public opinion in favour of human liberty—have met together, and joined hands in mutual pledge, that in every christian land a cry of execration shall henceforth be raised against the abomination of coloured bondage—a cry never to be hushed till that abomination be driven from the face of a too long polluted earth.

"Our expectations, we confess, were high, and the reality did not disappoint them. We thought from the first moment the idea was broached of thus calling together 'the pledged philanthropy of earth,' that the conception was a truly noble one. The jealousies of national independence had long stood in the way of the spread of righteous sympathy, between good men in different countries on the subject of slavery; but here was a way proposed of clearing at a bound all the barriers which had hitherto interposed. It grasped the universe in its wide-spread arms; it forgot the distinction of clime, and hue, and dialect, and sought to unite all races in one vast brotherhood, as the children of one common Father.

"We rejoice that it has been permitted us to witness the first realization of such a thought. We trust it is but the commencement of our breathing in an increased degree 'peace on earth, and good will to men.' It asked not who are, or who had been our enemies or our rivals. It was in fine, as we believe, the first practical attempt ever made to band men of all countries together to work and co-operate in the wide field of universal good."

Foreign and Colonial Intelligence continued.

TRINIDAD.—The Immigration and Agricultural Society held a public meeting for transaction of business on the 6th of July. It was very scantily attended, for which the *Standard* gives the Trinidad planters a severe rebuke. The committee stated that from April 5th, 1839, to July 3rd, 1840, two thousand one hundred and two emigrants have arrived according to official returns, but in reality some hundreds more. They mentioned also, that they had not promoted the introduction of emigrants from Europe, conceiving that they were not a class of persons at all suited to the wants of the colony. They "have reason to believe that a comprehensive plan for disposing of the waste crown lands is being framed by the government."

BRITISH GUIANA.—The *Guiana Reformer*, a new liberal paper to which we wish much success, notices the Anti-slavery meeting at Liverpool, at which Mr. Robert Semple asserted that the labourers on his estate in Berbice received a dollar a day, and offered to produce his books to prove it. On which the editor remarks, "We have documents in our possession which may see the light, which will prove that the people imported from St. Eustatius by Mr. Semple's agent in Berbice, have been receiving infinitely less than twenty-four dollars per month; yea, which will need no arithmetician to bring it down to somewhere about four dollars!"

The *Royal Gazette* of this colony of July 11th, informs us that a barrister in George Town, Demerara, had received "by the last mail, from a friend of his in London," a letter enclosing "the prospectus of a company," which was then "very shortly coming out," cycled The Jamaica, Demerara, and West India Emigration Company—capital £50,000, in 5000 shares of £50. each. We wonder somewhat at hearing of a company first from Demerara which was so very soon to "come out" in England. What has hindered its development? The names of the following gentlemen are printed at the head of the prospectus; and perhaps some of them will favour us with further information. "Patrons and Provisional Committee:—Messrs. Beckford and Ranken, Chauncy and Lange, Hawthorne and Thuldons, Mitchell's, Timpeson and Co., Benjamin Green and Son, Robert Sutton, Esq., N. B. Chauncy, H. H. Cohen, William Gladstone, E. F. Green, J. Harman, Captain Rees, Henry Kingston, with power to add to their number. Solicitors.—Messrs. Sweat, Sutton, Ewens, and Ommaney."

IMMIGRATION!—ATROCIOUS TREATMENT OF LABOURERS. We take the following from the *Guiana Times*. "Some labourers on *Tuschen de Vrienden*, thinking they received too little money for too much work, exercised their unquestionable right as free men, and complained to the proprietor or representative, Mr. W. R. Sandbach. What answer he gave their application we do not know, and care not to inquire. If he refused to allow them a fair return for their toil the colony was wide, and they might, at an hour's notice, find ready employment elsewhere. They returned to *Tuschen de Vrienden*. The manager, Mr. C. Ross, on whom the conduct of a few hours has drawn down a degree of reprobation from the inhabitants of this colony which we fear many years will not efface, took, as it would seem, their application to his and their common employer in high dudgeon: flew into the most ungovernable rage: ordered the people off the plantation, and when they were about to quit for town in the schooner of a neighbouring property, went on board of her, and, with tones and gestures of one possessed, threw into the water and destroyed live stock and other property belonging to the labourers to no inconsiderable amount. Not content with this act of madness, he seems to have done all in his power to induce the manager of that and a neighbouring property, to aid and abet him in his malevolence. Such doings were not to be tolerated in a civilized land. A court of magistrates, composed of men quite unconnected with agriculture, met, and saw ample reparation made to the outraged peasantry.—The misguided young man at once lost his management, was mulcted in a sum exceeding 150 dollars, and it is very doubtful whether he will not be forced to withdraw from the country."

Of this transaction the *Guiana Reformer* gives the following further particulars:—"The *Mellen Meerzorg* schooner being about to leave for town that day, the people, anxious to secure a passage in her, resorted to the waterside, where Mr. Ross also made his appearance, and succeeded in stopping the schooner altogether from going. Not satisfied with this, messengers were sent to the different plantations in the neighbourhood, with a request that no boat would take the people to town; to this unreasonable request, we understand, all the managers assented. After being deprived of every means or opportunity to resort to town, the people took shelter from the elements in the house usually called the sugar or shipping house; and, for the information of some of our distant readers, we add that this house is always built next to either the water's edge, or a spot most convenient for shipping or landing of such articles as the estate may have to send to town, or what may be brought to town for its use, for storing produce about to be shipped, or supplies, until taken away as the case may be, either to town or up to the works. From under this temporary shelter they were driven by the humane, the tender hearted, the merciful Mr. Ross, and were exposed to all the severities of the season and climate at this time of the year—severities to which we would not expose a dog!"

The *Reformer* annexes to this narrative the following very pertinent remarks:—"Our friends in Great Britain will see the necessity of strenuously opposing every scheme which may be in operation to transport to this colony labourers, to such an extent as will give our planters the command of the market. If now that they "are going to ruin," and their "salvation depends on a large influx of labourers," they can afford to treat their people in this brutal manner, what may it not be when the market is full? when they become independent of them? 'Tis easily seen. We may be accused of "writing generally," when the case is an isolated one. We answer, that of the isolatedness, we are sure 'twas quite the reverse; that we are quite justified in writing as we have done from the fact; and, to their disgrace be it said, that the whole of those who had to do with estates in the neighbourhood, instead of disapproving rather approved the course the manager of *Tuschen de Vrienden* pursued; and suffered men, women, and children to remain for four days, and as many nights, without either shelter or employment."

Our readers will, perhaps, recollect, that shortly after emancipation, several labourers were turned off an estate by Mr. Arrindell, and their growing crops in their provision grounds withheld from them or destroyed. After long delay, these cases came on for trial on the 24th of June, before judge Norton; and after some characteristic but useless bullying on the part of Mr. Arrindell, a decision was arrived at in favour of the labourers, who were declared to be entitled to the value of their crops, not as when ripe, but as at the time of their leaving the estate.

ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION.
(Concluded.)

MONDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 22ND.

BRITISH SETTLEMENTS IN WESTERN AFRICA.

Lieut.-colonel CAMPBELL, late governor of Sierra Leone, then came forward amidst loud cheers to address the assembly. It was a most trying occasion to such an humble individual as himself to have to stand before so intelligent, enlightened, and benevolent a body. He regretted his powers of eloquence were not such as to enable him to express his feelings in behalf of the poor Africans. He felt quite identified with them, and the gratitude he felt for their kindness in assisting him in his endeavours for their advancement was beyond his expression. He wished that a thorough inquiry were instituted into the present state of the British settlements on the African coast. In many of them the most shameful abuses were prevalent, and the home government boldly upheld them by their aid and countenance—(hear, hear.) In 1834 he was sent out by Spring Rice, as governor of Sierra Leone. The object of his appointment, he was informed, was to obtain correct information of the real state of our African settlements, of which they spoke in the most unfavourable terms, as a curse to the country. On reaching Sierra Leone, some idea might be formed of the real state of the colony, when the military on his landing refused to fire a salute, or to pay any of the usual compliments to a civil governor. Before he had reached the shore the old system of opposition on the part of the military to the civil authorities had commenced, and from that day it was steadily continued without the slightest diminution.—(Hear, hear.) As for the native inhabitants, he could bear testimony to their quiet and peaceful demeanour. He had no occasion to make laws. The people were always anxious in every respect to meet his wishes.—(Hear, hear.) The habits and customs of the different tribes were totally dissimilar, but the character of the whole was the same with respect to one point—they would trust implicitly any one who showed by his conduct that he respected his word.—(Hear, hear.) One of the first official acts was to inquire of the chaplain about the schools; he could give him no information. In fact there was nothing in the colony deserving that appellation. He (Colonel Campbell) immediately endeavoured to remedy this deficiency. There were several prejudices which he had to surmount—the children of liberated Africans and those born in the colony were unwilling to mix together. However, he at length succeeded in overcoming the difficulty by perseverance. The present plan of treating the negroes on their liberation from the slave vessels, on their capture by British cruisers, was little better than a mockery. The slavers arrived on the coast (and any one who had seen one of these vessels would remember it with a shudder to the latest day of his life)—(hear, hear.) Before adjudication the live cargo was landed and marched through the town in a state of nudity, and on liberation were sent to work with the convicts at 2d. a day; and would it be believed there was no allowance for the women? They were given to anybody who asked for them, and in many instances the government officers had made improper use of them.—(Hear, hear.) As a specimen of the character and conduct of some of the colonial officers, he would read an extract from a public document he had forwarded to the colonial-office in one of his despatches. On examining Mr. Edward Jones, schoolmaster, at Kent, the following were his answers:—

The governor—How many boys have you in your schools? Answer—I do not know; some are sick, some are at the farm, and some are cooking.

Point out to me the last liberated African boys you received?—I do not know them.

How many have you received altogether from the department?—I do not know; I believe there are 79 altogether in the school.

You will be pleased to count them.—There are 72 boys in the school.

How many sick boys are there? Nine are sick. Some are cooking. I do not know the exact number, as I do not interfere with the cooking. I am not particular how many are in the school.

Have you written any letters on boards, according to my orders the last time I visited this school?—I believe some alphabets were written, (and, going round the room, produced a board with some letters scratched upon it).

Did you do this?—No; I ordered the teacher to do it.

Have you written anything with your own hand for the purpose of instructing the boys?—No; it is not my duty. I am a minister of the gospel.

Have you any statement of the liberated African boys, how many there are, how disposed of, how many sick, and the number of deaths?—No; because I have no paper.

What is the date of your instructions, and when did you receive them?—I don't know.

Mr. Jones then left the school, went to his house, and shortly returned with the instructions, which he handed to the governor.

By the governor—It would have been as well, Mr. Jones, if you had taken the trouble to note on these instructions the date when you received them. At what period did you commence to act on these instructions?—I have never yet acted personally upon them.

Have you selected a piece of ground for the farm?—I do not understand the meaning of the word "selected."

Have you then chosen a piece of land for the boys to work upon, and seen it properly marked out?—I have not marked out any ground. I am no farmer, and don't understand the principles of farming.

Have you made a requisition for tools to the manager?—Yes.

Can you tell me what the boys have done? Have they cut the farm?—Cannot say what they have done. I am not a farmer, and therefore have never been near it.

Have you chosen any of the most intelligent boys for the mechanic constables?—I have not. I was not aware who were the most intelligent boys, but I ordered the constables to choose for themselves.

Which are the boys?—I do not know.

Did you take their number or names?—No.

Have you any list of the boys under your charge?—No, I have not.

Do your school instructions commence at nine and end at twelve?—I believe they do.

Do you attend the school regularly?—No, it is not my place to teach A, B, C; I am a minister of the gospel.

Do you ever attend the school?—I never do. I see no use in coming to waste my time, as I have no books, nor anything to teach the boys; neither do I feel it my duty to teach A, B, C, as I have other duties to perform.

Have you ever mustered the boys since their arrival?—No, it is not my place.

Do you read prayers every morning to the boys before they go out to farm?—No, it does not suit my health to get up so early.

Have you ever read prayers to the boys either in the morning or the evening?—No, I do not see any earthly use in attending to the school. There are no books—no nothing. I feel certain that the teacher does.

How do you certainly know that the teacher reads prayers, morning and evening, when you have never witnessed it?—I have not been present, but, nevertheless, I feel perfectly satisfied in regard to it.

Have you seen the boys bathe regularly every morning?—No. I consider it would be an insult to my situation to do such a thing as to see that the boys were washed, but know it is done. I consider the instructions as a personal insult to me, being the same as those which were sent to the schoolmaster at the Bananas.

Do you see the boys fed, and are you careful that they receive the proper quantity and quality allowed them?—No, I do not consider it my business to see them eat.

Do you keep a register of the deaths?—No, I do not. I have no books.

Is it your intention from henceforth to act up literally to the full spirit of the instructions that you have received from the liberated African department?—I cannot get up at five o'clock; it does not agree with me.

You will be pleased to answer my question without any equivocation. Do you or do you not intend to act up to the full spirit of my instructions?—I will if you compel me; but I will do so under a protest.

Upon going into the ward of the hospital his Excellency found there were eighteen sick boys, instead of nine, as Mr. Jones had stated, and the ward was in so dirty a state that his Excellency was compelled to leave it.

The foregoing statements made in the presence of

W. NORCOTT, King's Advocate.

W. ATKIN, Colonial Surgeon.

PETER BARROW, Private Secretary to the lieutenant-governor.

H. E. HARPER, Manager of the Western districts.

Mr. Jones had told him (Colonel Campbell) that there were only nine boys sick. On making inquiries, however, there were double that number. They were confined in a loft. The colonial surgeon and himself visited them. Their condition was too horrible for him to describe. They had to quit the place instantly, and most of them died shortly after. While that same functionary was acting as colonial chaplain at Free Town, out of thirty Sundays, and Christmas-day, he read prayers to the people in the gaol only eight, leaving twenty-two Sundays without divine service at all—(hear, hear). Thus was this so-called minister of the gospel appointed by the government, in his (Colonel Campbell's) opinion, fairly convicted of inhumanity and incompetency, and he was accordingly suspended; but it displeased Stephen; and no sooner did the colonial-office hear of it than he was reinstated—(cries of "shame.") He might give them the history of other officers whose conduct was as bad, if not worse, and the entire number that he had suspended or reported were re-appointed, and countenanced and protected by the colonial-office at home—(cries of "shame.") He (Colonel Campbell) also received orders from home to do away with the printing establishment; but he was one of those who thought that no motive of expediency could justify his doing that which he knew to be wrong—(hear, hear)—although he knew perfectly well that his conduct would be disapproved of by the authorities at home—(hear.) Instead of the responsible officers of the colony assisting him in his efforts to ameliorate the condition of the people, they were constantly engaged in thwarting and opposing his efforts—(hear, hear.) Since he had left the colony, he had been informed that the schools he had formed had been scattered to the winds; and as he had received no instructions from home, but had erected them on his own responsibility, he should not be surprised at being called upon to defray the expense of their establishment. He felt that the colonial-office had grossly neglected their duty to their poor African dependents, and he was determined at all risks to have them publicly exposed. (Hear)

Captain WAUCHOPE bore testimony to the excellent dispositions of the Western Africans, and to the good conduct of the liberated blacks. He had himself visited the schools established by Colonel Campbell, and carried away from them some specimens of the writing of the children, which he distributed through the meeting. They were really excellent. He concluded by moving—

"That the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society be requested to take into consideration the statements relative to Sierra Leone now laid before this convention, and to take such steps thereon as may appear best calculated to obtain a thorough investigation into the state of our present settlements on the west coast of Africa, with the view of exposing the abuses which have so long existed, and prevented that advancement in civilization and suppression of the slave-trade so ardently desired by the real friends of Africa, and to obtain which so much has been expended."

Dr. PRICE seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Justice JEREMIE warmly defended Mr. Stephen, of the colonial office, from the imputations which had been cast upon him. He moved—

"That a paper, detailing a plan of slave-trade abolition by Mr. Murray, of Glasgow, having been laid on the table of the secretaries."

"Resolved—That the same be referred to a committee, consisting of Mr. Murray, Dr. Bowring, Mr. George Thompson, and the mover and seconder, with instructions to report thereon to-morrow."

The Rev. Mr. CARLILE seconded the resolution, which was unanimously agreed to.

THE AMISTAD.

The Rev. C. P. GROSVENOR, of Massachusetts—Allow me to say, and it is with deep regret that I state the fact, that I was unable to be with you until Thursday morning. I was delayed by head winds. I regret that I have lost so much, nevertheless, I rejoice that I have received so much light as I have since I took my seat in this convention. I have not before had an opportunity of uttering a word, will you therefore favour me with a few minutes. I do not intend to make a speech, but to move a resolution in reference to the *Amistad*. The *Amistad* was a slave-vessel bearing a cargo of purchased slaves from Cuba through the Gulf of Mexico. These slaves rose up against those who held them in durance, and, having killed the captain, took possession of the vessel; but, being unacquainted with navigation, they were unable to steer it. They directed the helmsman, whom they had preserved, to sail to the east, threatening to take his life if he disobeyed. They were able to watch him during the day time, but during the night, he understanding the compass, which they did not, was able to deceive them by steering the vessel to the west; and, at length, he brought them on the coast of the United States, where they were discovered. The authorities boarded the vessel and took possession of her. These persons were taken into the state of Connecticut, and there imprisoned. They have been tried twice; no crime has been proved against them, but they are still detained in prison, and are to be tried a third time. (Hear, hear.) I have in my pocket a document touching the subject, which involves the chief magistracy of the United States in a course of conduct which we, of the United States, do not regard in the highest degree honourable to himself. It is a document which shows that he presumed to interfere on his own responsibility, and that he ordered an armed vessel to be ready during the trial of these poor captured Africans, who had been struggling for freedom and had well nigh obtained it, that, in case there should be a decision in their favour and no appeal to a higher court, he might commit them to the authorities of the Spanish government in Cuba, to be thrown into slavery. I may now read the resolution.

"That this convention, deeply sympathising with the survivors of the *Amistad*, who, though fully proved to be rightfully and legally free, are yet as slaves incarcerated in the United States under the authority of the government of that country, do express their regret and astonishment at the course pursued towards those victims of cupidity and cruelty, in the vexatious delays to which they have been subjected in their trial in American courts, and especially in the interference of the National executive in aid of the oppressors of these prisoners, for the purpose of delivering them up to their unjust claimants, and thus reducing them to absolute and perpetual slavery."

It might be sufficient merely to move this, and to leave it in the hands of a committee, who will probably draw up a memorial on the subject. Let me remark, however, that that class of citizens of the United States, who have begun to sympathise with the poor down-trodden sons of Ham have entered with thrilling interest into this case. It has awakened the attention of thousands in New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and other northern states, who before had been slumbering on the subject of slavery. I mention this fact to show that it is regarded as an important matter in America. If you can induce the British government to remonstrate with that of the United States on this subject you will accomplish, I apprehend, a noble work. The representatives here assembled from different nations have a voice which they can employ, and which will be heard across the Atlantic. It will be heard also where as yet, I fear, little has been felt, viz., by the government of Spain. We all feel in Massachusetts that the decision with regard to this vessel and its unhappy inmates is one which vitally affects the great question of slavery. (Cheers.)

W. FORSTER, Esq.—I wish to put this question to the friend from America—whether this subject does come within the scope of the principles on which the convention is met. The principle is comprehended in three words, "moral, religious, and pacific." These poor negroes having been brought into the circumstances into which they are thrown by the commission of an act of murder, does the subject come properly, legitimately, and suitably within the scope of the principles we have laid down?

The Rev. C. P. GROSVENOR.—The question is a very proper one. I think it does. I think the influence which the government of this country may exert will be a moral and pacific influence, an influence worthy of your noble Queen, worthy of your parliament. We do not ask that they should interfere with the sword; that is a weapon with which I hope we have done. (Cheers.) Great Britain and America will no more meet in contest with other arms than those of truth and love. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. Mr. BROCK seconded the resolution, which, after some discussion of a very desultory character, was agreed to.

Dr. MADDEN, in supporting the resolution respecting the survivors of the *Amistad* (which he did from a full knowledge of the facts) strenuously defended Lord Glenelg and Mr. Stephen of the colonial office.

After some routine business the convention adjourned at nine o'clock.

TUESDAY, JUNE 23rd.

The delegates assembled at ten o'clock, Dr. GREVILLE in the chair.

The minutes of the meeting of Monday were read and confirmed.

Mr. JOSEPH STURGE took that opportunity of congratulating the meeting upon the fact that the ministry had been beaten on the clause in the Colonial Passengers' Bill allowing the importation of Hill Coolies into the Mauritius. The numbers were—for the clause 109, against it 158; so that they had a majority in favour of their views of 49. (Cheers.) Before proceeding to the business, he begged to be allowed to recommend gentlemen to be careful of the time of the convention, it was most important that they should finish their proceedings that day, and they had much to do—let it, therefore, be a day for business, and not for long speeches.

THANKS TO MISSIONARIES.

Captain STUART proposed a resolution of thanks to the missionaries of the London Missionary, Presbyterian, and Moravian churches, for their endeavours to enlighten and preserve the liberty of the negroes. In his opinion they deserved the same meed of approbation which the convention had already given to the Baptist missionaries. He was anxious that it should pass, but he was anxious that there should be no division of opinion upon it. If it were not likely to be unanimously carried, he would not press it.

Mr. STANFIELD, of Belfast, seconded the motion.

The Rev. J. H. HINTON said it was impossible that it could pass in its then shape. Many would object to it.

Dr. PRINCE, of Jamaica, objected to the resolution, as it made no mention of the ministers of the Establishment. Although he was a Baptist himself, he must say that many of the clergy of the Established church were warm friends of the negro, and one of them was even now suffering imprisonment in a jail in Jamaica for his zeal in the cause.

The feeling of the meeting being in favour of a resolution more general in its character, it was referred to a sub-committee, and was afterwards proposed by

The Rev. Mr. CARLILE, and was a resolution of thanks to the missionaries and ministers of all denominations, who had endeavoured to promote the welfare of the negro, and of sympathy with those who were suffering for their exertions in the cause.

Mr. CREWDSON seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

Dr. BOWRING then read the address to the French nation prepared by the sub-committee, which on the motion of

Mr. J. T. PRICE was unanimously adopted.

EMPLOYMENT OF BRITISH CAPITAL.

Mr. RICHARD ALLEN, of Dublin, then brought up the report of the committee appointed to consider the employment of British capital was employed in the furtherance of the slave-trade and slavery. He said the examinations entered into by the committee had been most humiliating: turn which way they would, they found British capital directly engaged in the slave-trade, and upholding it both at home and abroad. It was a question that demanded the earnest and most serious attention of every friend of the negro. There was much that yet remained in darkness, and he trusted all friends to the cause would expose all that came to their knowledge, so that public opinion might be brought to bear upon those concerned in the support of such traffic.

Mr. BOULTREE moved, and Mr. STROVEL seconded, the adoption of the report, which was unanimously agreed to.

The committee had also prepared several resolutions, but as some thought they might be considered libellous, they were re-committed, in a modified form.

On the motion of Mr. STACEY, a resolution was unanimously adopted, calling upon the government strenuously to oppose itself to the introduction of slave-grown sugar.

ADDRESS TO SOVEREIGNS.

Mr. FORSTER then brought up the report of the sub-committee appointed to draw up an address to the crowned heads of Europe who were possessors of slaves.

Mr. HILL moved the adoption of the address. He had been most anxious to give his humble aid and assistance to the great cause of anti-slavery, it was one to which he had been attached ever since he had been able to frame an idea. He had attended at the first sitting of the convention, but he saw so many men of greater talent and who possessed more knowledge of the question than himself, that he felt convinced it was better for him to remain a silent and attentive listener, rather than take an active interest in the deliberations of the convention. It was from no want of sincere and deep feeling in favour of the cause, but he thought it would be better promoted by allowing other gentlemen to occupy their attention. It was with much pleasure he moved the adoption of the address, and he sincerely trusted it would be productive of much good to the oppressed negro.

SIR C. E. SMITH seconded the motion, although he felt that he had no right to do so, for he took shame to himself for not having given more attention to the details of the subject, and for coming so late amongst them. All sects of religionists agreed that man was a responsible being, but slavery denied it, and placed the slave at the will of his master. The knot of slavery had been tied by governments, he therefore seconded the motion with pleasure, because he wished to see them untie it again.

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

WINDWARD AND LEEWARD ISLANDS.

Mr. PRESCOD, of Barbados then presented a report upon the results of emancipation of the negroes in the Windward and Leeward Islands. Their object in meeting was not so much to convince themselves of the evils of slavery, but to collect and send forth evidence of it to convince others—that evidence could not be too full, and had time permitted, he would have been most happy to have entered at some length into the effects of emancipation as they had come under his own observation. As time was so precious he would content himself with calling upon all the friends of the negro to watch most attentively the laws enacted by the colonial legislature. The laws enacted in Barbados were even worse for the negro than those passed by the legislature of Jamaica. He read the following resolutions:—

"That the beneficial results of emancipation in the British colonies, as exhibited in the religious, moral, and social improvement of the labouring population, have far exceeded the most sanguine anticipations of the friends of freedom and humanity. That the increased value of property in these colonies satisfactorily proves the measure to be one of great advantage to the proprietors and planters; and that in order to the salutary and efficient working out of this great experiment, the progress of colonial legislation must be jealously watched; the withdrawal of a stipendiary magistracy strenuously resisted; and an entire reformation in the administration of justice perseveringly sought.

"This convention being painfully impressed with the fact, that the enemies of human right are actively promoting oppressive measures, both in this country and in the colonies, the object of which is, to silence those philanthropists who advocate the cause of the poor, and to consign the emancipated to a new and bitter bondage;

"That this convention would particularly refer to the laws recently passed in Jamaica and Barbados, and to the persecutions of missionaries and others in the former colony; and this convention therefore earnestly implores the friends of the anti-slavery enterprise, and especially the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society, carefully to observe, and to take measures for frustrating, all insidious attempts either to abridge the liberties of the emancipated, or to silence and crush their protectors."

Their adoption was moved by Mr. FINLAY, and seconded by the Rev. A. HARVEY.

The Reverend Mr. MIRAM spoke of the good conduct of the emancipated negroes in British Guiana.

Mr. ALEXANDER drew the attention of the convention to this fact—it was often stated that the production of sugar had decreased since the emancipation in our colonies, and this was used as an argument for importation of Hill Coolies. (Hear.) Now the fact was, that before the emancipation the decrease of production had begun—(Hear)—so that it certainly was no argument against free labour. (Hear.)

The Reverend Mr. SEABORN, from Berbice, bore testimony to the good effects of emancipation there.

Mr. SCOBLE had great pleasure in stating, as the result of the tour he had taken in Guiana, &c., that the negroes had fully borne out the most sanguine expectations as to their conduct under emancipation; that they had become diligent and careful—that they had supported their religious teachers, built their religious edifices, nay, sent large sums over to the aid of religious societies:—(cheers)—and as to the pretence of diminished production of sugar, it was just to the extent, and no more, which would result from the deduction of one day from the six, for the negro's cultivation of his own land. The evils of slavery could never be remedied by any mere modification—nothing could remove them but utter extinction. (Hear, hear, hear.) Full, unrestricted liberty must be given to the negro, in order that he might reap the advantage of the blessings conferred on him. He trusted that their friends from various parts of the country would feel the importance of maintaining inviolate the great principle of total and immediate emancipation—that there would be no compromise on this subject, and he hoped that the delegates from France would feel it to be their duty to advocate entire emancipation, without restriction, without money, and without price. (Cheers.) With these remarks he begged to support the resolution.

Mr. BRADBURN also supported the resolution. In the ship in which he and some of his friends came over to England, there were a few planters from British Guiana, who represented the state of things there as being most horrible. They said their estates had greatly diminished in value; and one of them stated that last year he had lost on his own plantation, a small one, £1500. But these gentlemen, from certain statements they made, utterly destroyed their own credibility, and he could not, as he told them, believe one word they said—(laughter)—and for this reason; they stated deliberately, and with all the gravity that John Bull was ever known to put on his countenance, that the eloquent gentleman who had last addressed the meeting (Mr. Scoble) was a madman—(laughter)—that his friend Charles Stuart was a fool—(renewed laughter)—and that Daniel O'Connell was a mere political demagogue. He (Mr. Bradburn) immediately replied, "Now gentlemen, that statement is sufficient to give the lie to all you have told me with regard to emancipation." (Laughter.) But they all admitted the system worked very well for the negro. (Hear, hear.)

Captain STUART said there were two islands which required the especial care and attention of the convention; one was Tobago, because it was more out of the way of national and commercial observation than any other. No ship scarcely touched at it except the mail. It was out of the world's eye, and consequently they might easily guess what its condition was. The other was the island of St. Lucia, it was most devoid of religious and moral influence.

The Rev. Mr. KNIBB fully concurred in the resolution before the meeting. He rose to draw the special attention of the convention to the laws that had been recently passed in the island of Jamaica, although he believed they were quite as bad in other colonies. But he especially referred to Jamaica, for the purpose of imploring the committee to prepare a resolution, and a strong one, for discussion on Wednesday, when they would have more time to speak on the matter. He had seen in the public prints a statement, that it was the intention of Lord John Russell to let those laws go into operation, and merely to send out some recommendations of amendments to the house of assembly. The fact was, that they might just as well trust the lamb to the tiger, as trust the liberty of the negro to the house of assembly. They said they would take care of the liberty of the negro, but it was only as the tiger took care of the lamb, who said he could carry it better than it could walk, and afterwards secretly devoured it (Hear, hear.) If those laws were to be carried into operation by the hands of a Jamaica magistracy, the whole battle would have to be fought over again. (Hear, hear.) He believed those laws had been passed for the purpose of obstructing liberty, and of strangling it at its birth; and he called on every anti-slavery man and woman to assist in fighting out fairly, yet peacefully, the grand object they had in view in the island of Jamaica. (Hear, hear.) He urged them to do so, because his American friends were constantly reiterating in his ears, that upon the result of the emancipation in Jamaica depended the liberty of the negro in America. (Hear, hear.) They ought to use every moral effort to gain unrestricted liberty for their emancipated brethren. It would be their duty to provide a home for the negro population, and to afford them the means of subsistence, so that they might not be continually vexed and destroyed by those who had been fully paid for all they had surrendered. (Hear, hear.) He would just advert to one circumstance that would be interesting to the meeting, and begged to read the following extract from *Galignani's Messenger*:—"The commission on colonial affairs, of which the Duke de Broglie is president, has come to an unanimous resolution that slavery ought to be entirely abolished, and that the total emancipation of the blacks in the French colonies ought to be effected. Three questions are to be submitted to the high functionaries in the several colonies:—1. Whether the emancipation should be according to the English mode? 2. Whether it should be accomplished after a fixed period, either of ten years with an indemnity, or twenty years without an indemnity? 3. Whether it should be according to the system proposed by M. de Tocqueville? The commission has adjourned to January next, by which time it is expected that the answers from the colonies will have reached Paris. The delegates from the colonies to the capital refused to appear before the commission, or to afford it any information, intrenching themselves behind the law of 1835 relating to the colonies." This was interesting information, as far as it went: and he trusted such a feeling would be displayed, and that such facts would accompany that feeling, as to show that the French government had not the least occasion to spend one farthing of their money to compensate those who had no claim whatever upon them. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. LUSHINGTON (having been generally called for) rose and said—Ladies and gentlemen, I had not intended on this occasion, to intrude any observations of mine upon this assembly; but, as the question which is now submitted to your consideration is one of the greatest importance, and as you seem inclined to listen to me, I will trouble you with one or

two observations. (Hear, hear.) I have long expected, indeed from the very first period when the Emancipation Act received the assent of the legislature of this country, that its real and effectual working would be attempted to be defeated in the great majority of our colonies. (Hear, hear.) It never was to be expected that persons whose minds were so imbued with the spirit of slavery—whose hearts for so many years had been hardened against the true principles of justice and religion, would, in consideration of any extraordinary reward, however great it might be, divest themselves of those feelings they had so long cherished, or those habits in which they had so long indulged. And I grieve to think that at the present hour, looking more especially to the great island of Jamaica (and I entirely agree in the importance of keeping our eyes fixed on that island, which contains so large a portion of the emancipated race of negroes), they are still concocting measures, studiously disguised in outward appearance, but in truth and in reality intended for the purpose of curtailing that liberty which we have gained with our long exertions, and with the gold of the country. (Hear, hear.) I feel also that in the island of Jamaica, as in most others, there has been no power yet established—at least as far as I have witnessed—which has been able to carry a just law into complete and full execution. (Hear, hear.) But if the law be in itself unjust—if it be so studiously framed for the purpose of diminishing liberty, and for the purpose of giving to what may be called in society the upper class a greater power over those who are beneath them, I am confident if the government of this country give their assent to such laws, they will not merely diminish the liberty of the negro, but will defeat all the great objects which have been declared in parliament to be well purchased by the twenty millions; and I fear the still greater evil that the time may come when we shall be compelled to submit to the introduction of foreign slave-grown sugar into this country, with all the calamitous consequences of slavery. (Hear, hear.) I hope that my friend Mr. Knibb has to a certain extent misunderstood the declaration of Lord John Russell, for I did not understand Lord John Russell to declare that he intended to allow all those acts to go into operation. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. KNIBB—They are in operation now.

Dr. LUSHINGTON—I am aware they are. I am aware that when an act receives the assent of the governor it is law, until the crown shall disallow the act; (hear, hear) but what I meant to say was, that I did not understand Lord John Russell to say he did not intend to disallow any of those laws, or that he meant to allow all the existing laws to continue in force and effect. I understood him to say no such thing. (Hear, hear.) What I understood him to say was this, that there were certain laws, amounting to a large number, that were passed during the sitting of the house of assembly in Jamaica, some of which contained good mixed up with bad—that he would not at present disallow those laws, but that he would give the governor instructions to inform the house of assembly that if they did not bring in other acts abrogating that which was wrong, the prerogative of the crown would then be exercised in the disallowance of those statutes. (Hear, hear.) What the result may be I cannot say, but I do hope that Lord John Russell, knowing the deep responsibility fixed on him as the colonial minister of this great country, remembering that the happiness of thousands upon thousands is at a stake if he relaxes his vigilance, or for a moment allows injustice to triumph over truth—I do hope and trust, that, viewing the case as we view it, he will exercise that vigilance in the way I have mentioned, by the total disallowance of all measures in which the evil preponderates, and by permitting those measures temporarily to continue in force in which there is greater good and less evil. (Hear, hear.) But though I entertain this hope, I am not one who would leave any exertion unmade, or any effort untried, to give such a force or power to the expression of public opinion, as to let him or any other minister of the crown know that we, the people of England, have our vigilance exerted upon this great subject. I will not say our vigilance merely, but our well-founded jealousy—(Hear, hear)—recollecting that for above a century there have existed in Jamaica apparently excellent laws, a dead letter—recollecting that in Jamaica there have also existed laws the most execrable in their nature and in their provisions—and recollecting that, in proportion as their provisions were abhorrent to truth and justice, so they were carried into the most efficient execution. (Hear, hear.) Neither in him nor any other minister would I entirely confide, but I would endeavour to induce him to shut his ear to the voice of the planter, remembering that poison was poured into the ears of his predecessors, and that we who have been fighting the cause of the negro have had to encounter from day to day, and from hour to hour, a denial of those atrocities and those previous evils which afflicted that country—nay, up to the hour of emancipation, we were met with a denial of the truth of that which no man dared now to disavow. (Hear, hear.) I entirely concur in the spirit of this resolution, and I hope and trust, that the evil effects which some prognosticate, many fear, but I hope not all expect, may be averted. (Cheers.)

Mr. KNIBB said that the removal of every governor who at all sympathised with the negro was enough to make the friends of the black tremble. (Hear, hear.) He would distinctly state that they were determined to have liberty and nothing less.

Mr. WHITEHORNE observed that there ought to be a clause in every Jamaica act, suspending its operation until it should have received the sanction of the British government.

Captain STUART remarked that it was not the fault of the British government solely that those bad laws had been passed in Jamaica—the fault was with the British people. (Hear, hear.) The government had endeavoured to correct the evils in Jamaica, but they were foiled in their attempt. At the next election they ought to beat up for anti-slavery men, and then Lord John Russell would be glad to do his duty. (Hear, hear.)

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

Mr. JOSEPH STURGE believed the modesty of their esteemed friend Dr. Lushington, had prevented him saying any thing upon the subject of the discussion in the House of Commons relative to the Hill Coolies.—(Hear, hear.)

Dr. LUSHINGTON observed that the efforts of those that took the lead in putting a stop to the exportation of Hill Coolies from the East, were very much assisted by Mr. Hogg, the member for Beverley, (hear, hear,)—who came down on the part of the East India Company, and expressed his earnest desire that no step should be taken without further information. (Hear, hear.) He was happy to say the feeling of the

majority of the House of Commons was strictly in accordance with that which must be the feeling of that meeting; and he was sure they must all feel thankful to Providence, that for the present at least, a stop had been put to what he conceived to be little less than a renewal of the traffic in men. (Cheers.)

The convention then adjourned at half-past two till four o'clock.

EVENING SITTING.

The convention resumed its sittings at four o'clock.

Mr. STURGE in the chair.

Mr. W. MORGAN, one of the secretaries, read several letters from different individuals on the present condition of slavery in various parts of the world, and these documents were ordered to be referred to the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society, with a request that that committee would give them their best attention, and dispose of them as they thought most conducive to the great object of the convention.

RUSSIAN SERFAGE.

The Rev. T. SCALES said that he had a paper to read to the convention upon a subject of great importance and deep interest, and one which had already awakened great attention, and appeared likely to do so in a still far greater degree. It was prepared by a gentleman who had resided many years in Russia, and related to the system of serfage that was carried on in that country.

The paper was then read, and many parts of it were most enthusiastically cheered, and upon its being concluded—

Mr. TURNBULL said that the author was worthy of the confidence of the convention. As there was a general resolution that all monarchs and governments should be addressed, he thought in the present instance there should be a special address to the Emperor of Russia, calling upon him to abolish the system of villanage that existed in that country.—(Cheers.)

After a few observations from Mr. JAMES FULLER, the paper was directed to be referred to the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society.

DANISH AND DUTCH SLAVERY.

Mr. ALEXANDER brought up the report on Danish and Dutch slavery. The committee had proposed a resolution for the adoption of the convention. The reason why that recommendation had been proposed, was, that it was thought by some of the members of the committee that it would be difficult for the convention to adopt an address sufficiently extensive to embrace all the subject connected with Holland and Denmark. One feature of the slavery in Holland to which he did not advert on a former occasion, was the fact, that although there were between four and five hundred plantations in Surinam, there were not more than thirteen or fourteen resident proprietors. (Cheers.) The honourable gentleman concluded by proposing the resolution.

The Reverend WM. JAMES seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

SPANISH SLAVERY.

Mr. ALEXANDER said if the committee would allow him, he would now bring up the report on Spanish slavery, on which subject the committee had proposed a resolution for the further adoption of the convention.

Mr. TURNBULL seconded the resolution which was agreed to unanimously.

SLAVERY IN CEYLON.

Professor ADAM then came forward to communicate to the meeting the contents of a paper relative to slavery in Ceylon. He had no personal knowledge of the island of Ceylon, or the state of slavery in it; all that he knew was derived from the parliamentary papers he had consulted on the subject. As he had stated before, those were principally parliamentary details, which he had taken from the parliamentary papers. He begged, however, the attention of the convention to the phraseology he had adopted. He had stated that such and such things had been the case, because he considered that many of the statements were liable to exception, and it was only by the investigation of the cases in the island itself by persons who understood the language and communicated with them, that the truth was to be ascertained. Another remark that might also be made was this, that even assuming the correctness of all the circumstances stated in the parliamentary papers, it followed that the slavery which existed in Ceylon was of a comparatively mild character. (Cheers.) Now what should be the conclusion drawn? Why, if the slavery that existed there was of so mild a character, the facilities were far greater for effecting the complete emancipation of the slaves.

Mr. ALEXANDER wished to know what was the number of the slave population in Ceylon, as compared with the free population there?

Professor ADAM said that the slave population was about 30,000, including the maritime and central part, while the free population of the province fell little short of one million.

Mr. WILLIAM MORGAN, one of the secretaries, said, a paper had been communicated to them by a gentleman holding a high official situation in Ceylon, which he would now read to them.

The paper was then read by Mr. Morgan.

Mr. TURNBULL then moved that the documents on Ceylon be referred to the committee for their consideration.—Carried.

The Rev. Mr. CARLILE on behalf of the committee to whom Mr. Murray's paper was referred, reported that they had examined the paper, which was on the subject of the application of the principle of international law for the putting down of slavery, and they recommended that it be taken into the earliest and most serious consideration of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society.

The report was adopted.

THE NEXT CONVENTION.

Mr. PRICE, of Swansea, said a resolution had been put into his hands from which he inferred that the convention was drawing near its close. He had throughout felt the deepest interest in its proceedings, and he hoped and trusted that it would materially contribute to the advancement of the objects for which it had been convened. He had felt very great pleasure in meeting there so many persons from the other side of the Atlantic, whom he had never seen before, and whom, perhaps, he might never see again; but he had no doubt they would remember each other in their prayers. Recollecting that it had been decided to abolish the use of force for the promotion of the objects they had in view, and that their reliance was entirely upon divine guidance, he felt confident

that therein was their greatest and best strength, and that they might commit the care of their cause to Divine Providence. (Hear, hear.) In looking forward to the future, it appeared to him wise in the convention to consider whether it should, before its separation, conclude to meet again. (Hear, hear.) That was the object of the resolution which he had now to submit to them. In considering the question it appeared to him, that in a convention of nations, comprising representatives from so many different parts of the world, subject as they were to the vicissitudes of life, they little knew what the future would bring forth, and he thought there would be no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that they should agree to meet again. It was, in his opinion, wise to leave it to the Anti-slavery Society of London to make the final arrangements as to the time and place of the next meeting, and that was the main purport of his resolution. [Mr. Price then read the resolution.] In taking leave of their friends, particularly those from America, there were various suggestions which would present themselves from the proceedings in which they had taken part, and which he doubted not, would lead to the most beneficial results in promoting the success of their cause on the other side of the Atlantic. He was anxious that they should impress upon their American brethren of all religious persuasions the necessity of a general co-operation in the promotion of these objects. (Hear, hear.) His object was, and he trusted it would be the object of their American friends, to unite christians of all denominations in a common bond for the abolition of slavery. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. JOHN KEEP, Ohio, had great pleasure in seconding the resolution. He entered fully into the feelings which suggested the plan of co-operation among all the abolitionists on both sides of the Atlantic. He believed the present meeting was calculated to effect great good, and he had no doubt that its proceedings would produce a powerful effect in promoting the cause they were all engaged in. There was little doubt that another meeting would soon be called for, the interests involved in it being of great importance. Their minds could not take in the magnitude of the objects of the present convention. He would not indulge in too fond anticipations, nor would he trespass on the time of the meeting by indulging in his own feelings and anticipations, but he believed he echoed the feelings of all his christian brethren when he expressed a hope that they might all speedily meet again, if not to congratulate each other upon the achievement of their objects, at least upon the vast progress that the cause had made. (Hear.) As an American citizen, perhaps, he might be allowed to say a few words on the state of the question there. (Hear.) They had the American government, the American ministry, and the American church against them, but their cause was rapidly making way. (Hear.) The state of society in the United States showed them how deep, how forbidding, and how appalling were the horrors of the American slave-system; and how, he would ask, was it possible for a few philanthropists to go forward to the consummation of the work, unless they were assisted and encouraged by the blessing of God and their fellow-philanthropists on this side of the Atlantic? He trusted the position of that slave-cursed country would occupy still more of the attention of the convention; that they would lay aside every thing like prejudice, or that was calculated to keep back British influence, British prayers, and, if need be, British money, to sustain the anti-slavery operations in America. (Hear, hear.) He believed, that after the present meeting, there would be more prayers in the churches on both sides of the Atlantic, for the success of their cause. Feeling the liveliest gratitude to the persons who composed the present assembly, for the deep interest they had taken in the question, he would conclude by expressing a hope that, if it was not permitted them to meet again on earth, they might all meet in the kingdom of their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in another world. (Hear.)

The Rev. H. Grew said before the resolution was put, he wished to call their attention to the point of whether the United States would not be the fittest place for the next meeting of the convention. (Hear, hear.) He hoped that subject would have the calm and deliberate attention of the meeting. He would suggest, therefore, that his American brethren should retire for a few minutes, and deliberate upon the question. The blessing of Divine Providence, he humbly hoped, had been upon their proceedings, and he trusted that the same power would close them. Though oceans divided them, their hearts would still not only be opened to the cry of the sufferer and the complaint of the oppressed, but they would also be lifted up in prayer to God for the success of their undertaking.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Sturge) said there were few persons, unless those who were intimately acquainted with the getting up of the present assembly, who could appreciate the weight and responsibility of the undertaking. (Cheers.) He believed that those who had taken an active part in the matter could hardly venture, looking forward to the future, to take so much responsibility upon them again, unless they received some intimation of encouragement from the convention before it separated. It was no wish of taking a prominent part in all proceedings that induced the London committee to take upon themselves the task, but they did wish to ascertain, before their friends separated, whether the arrangements that had taken place were such as to entitle them to encouragement for the future, if they ever looked forward to such a meeting. (Hear, hear.) If their American friends thought it best to retire, he had nothing to say to it; but he begged to call their attention before they did so to one point, and that was regarding the time of the next meeting. It had been said that a year would be too soon, and three years too remote a period, and many were of opinion that two years from the present time would be most advisable.

Mr. FULLER very much questioned the propriety of retiring. They were all there without distinction of country. He was not there as an American. (Hear, hear.) He stood there as a christian on the platform of humanity, and would not go out with the Americans. (Hear, hear.) Let them have everything done in the open face of day. (Hear.)

The Rev. C. GROSVENOR wished the American delegates should have an opportunity of consulting together.

The Rev. N. COLVER was opposed to the American delegates retiring. While he approved of the resolution, he begged to say that he hoped such a correspondence would be opened with the American and other delegates as would lead them to the best and most satisfactory results to all parties; and on that understanding he had no objection to leave the matter in the hands of the London Society. He had the utmost confidence in the arrangements of the society in London, and he had strong hopes that, before

two years had elapsed, they would have the pleasure of welcoming the delegates to a convention like the present in America. Such an event would gladden and cheer his heart. (Hear, hear.) He should not feel that he had done right if he went away without adding a word or two. If anything had escaped him which might have even remotely added to the labours of the committee, he sincerely regretted it. When they went back to the land of slavery, the proceedings of the convention would meet them there, and they would be canvassed in the *Slaveholder* and the *Slaveholders' Apologist*; but they had nothing to shrink from, and he would give the convention this pledge, that he would remember them when he came before that throne where God heard prayers. (Hear, hear.) The Americans would need the prayers and the sustaining hand of their brethren on this side of the Atlantic; and whether they met in another convention or not, whether they were to assemble again in America or in England, he felt assured that there was a great convention to which he and all of them were hastening. There they would meet the slave-holder, and he prayed that he might not have it to say, "You did not do what you could to relieve me from the infatuation under which I laboured, and to enable me to wash off the guilt which has now clothed me with eternal woe." (Hear, hear.) There they would meet, also, the poor slave without his chains, and may God forbid that the poor slave should have to say, "Sir, you did not do what you could to take my fetters off in the other world." (Hear.) There, also they would meet those who had aided in the cause of the abolition of slavery, and he trusted that it would not be found that any of them had been turned aside from the path of duty and humanity. (Loud cheers.) When he thought of the many thousands of slaves in his own country who were groaning under the lash, his heart was appalled, and he lay awake in the watches of the night. In conclusion, he would call upon them not to desist from their labours, not to lay down their bones in the dust, until every slave throughout the world was emancipated. (Cheers.)

The Rev. E. GALUSHA was prepared to move an amendment. He could not abandon the hope that the convention would one day sit in America, but he did not think it would be proper to fetter the committee in any way. It would be better that the whole question should be left in their hands. He would move, not as an amendment, but as an addition, to that effect.

The Rev. C. P. GROSVENOR seconded the motion.

Colonel MILLER had no objection to either the original motion or the proposed addition. He came there at the call of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society, and had, he trusted, spoken and acted as an independent man. (Hear, hear.) He now felt confident in the prosperity of the abolition principles, and they would be worked out into full effect by means of the gospel of Jesus Christ. As an American, he wished to have a convention upon their own shores, and he could promise that the friends of the negro would receive as hearty a welcome as the Americans had done in London. He pledged himself, and he could speak for thousands in his own country, that, so long as health and life were vouchsafed to him and them, they would devote themselves to the cause of abolition until every slave was set free.

Mr. W. PHILIPS said whenever and wherever such a body met again, they, at all events, ought to be left to form their own constitution; they ought to be allowed to form the details of their own plan of meeting, and be able to admit as delegates whom they pleased. He did not see why they should always sit in England.

After a long and desultory conversation.

The Rev. Mr. CARLILE moved as an amendment, "That it should be left to the discretion of the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society of London to decide, after consulting with the friends of abolition in other countries, upon the time and place of holding another convention," which being seconded, was carried unanimously.

The Rev. T. SCALES said, all the business had been gone through which had been on the secretary's list. Some gentlemen, however, had prepared resolutions, which they would then offer to the meeting.

Mr. W. PHILIPS then rose to enter his protest, and that of seven of his American brethren, against certain parts of the proceedings of the convention. After detailing the list of grievances, it went on to complain of partiality on the part of the chairmen. The latter clause was met with a loud and general cry of "No, no." He complained that upon many occasions they had not been allowed to discuss matters in a manner sufficiently full. He moved that the protest be entered upon the records of the convention.

Several of the members of the convention hoped the latter clause would be withdrawn. This was refused. It was then moved, as an amendment, that the protest be received, and lie upon the table, which was carried by a large majority.

Mr. G. THOMPSON then rose to move a vote of thanks and gratitude to their venerable president. He would have liked to have made some observations upon so interesting a topic, but the time was then so late, that he would content himself with simply laying the resolution before the convention.

Mr. W. PHILIPS begged leave to second the motion. The name of Clarkson raised strong and powerful emotions in the breasts of thousands of his fellow-countrymen across the Atlantic, and he was pleased that the last tones of his voice were heard in that assembly, expressing his gratitude to that great and good man.

The motion was carried by every member rising up, and without any acclamation.

Upon the motion of Dr. PRICE, seconded by the Rev. Mr. GALUSHA, the thanks of the meeting were voted to the five vice-presidents for the able manner in which they had conducted the proceedings of the convention.

Mr. JOSEPH STURGE most feelingly returned thanks.

Thanks were then voted to the secretaries, the press committee, &c.; after which

Mr. WOODWARD read a resolution of thanks and gratitude to the Almighty for permitting the assembly. The members then remained a short time in devotional silence, and the convention was dissolved.

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